



HR0940

LRB104 22146 ECR 38359 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to congratulate James Andrew "Andy" Busch
4 on the occasion of his retirement as pastor at Alpha Baptist
5 Church after 34 years of service at the age of 70; and

6 WHEREAS, Andy Busch has been a pillar of the community for
7 decades, supporting and organizing events at hospitals and
8 churches, officiating numerous weddings, and serving as
9 chaplain for ten funerals; and

10 WHEREAS, Andy Busch was born in Duluth, Minnesota on
11 January 18, 1956; he attended Green Bay East High School in
12 Green Bay, Wisconsin, graduating in 1974; he then studied at
13 the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, graduating in 1979, and
14 the Bethel Theological Seminary in Arden Hills, Minnesota,
15 graduating in 1983; after completing his education, he moved
16 several times before eventually settling in Galesburg,
17 Illinois in 2007; and

18 WHEREAS, Andy Busch became a full-time chaplain at the
19 United Medical Center on August 20, 1990, retiring from that
20 position on January 31, 2025; his service in hospitals
21 included improving mental health and addiction care through
22 music and spiritual teaching, facilitating community grief

1 groups, and assisting aspiring hospital chaplains to become
2 certified with the Association of Professional Chaplains in
3 1992; for his efforts, he was honored with a monthly service
4 award; and

5 WHEREAS, Andy Busch became the pastor of Alpha Baptist
6 Church in Alpha, Illinois in February 1995; his service has
7 included overseeing four baby dedications, leading four
8 revivals, participating in the praise band and One Love youth
9 ministry, writing a column in the Register-Mail, and playing
10 in six church concerts; he has also officiated 35 weddings
11 between Alpha Baptist Church and Community Baptist Church of
12 Ontario, Wisconsin, including a wedding hosted at a stock car
13 racetrack; and

14 WHEREAS, Andy Busch's pastoral duties have extended even
15 further, including starting a food pantry at the Community
16 Baptist Church in 1988, being the co-winner of the American
17 Baptist Churches of the Great Rivers Region Hymn Contest in
18 1993, and giving the invocation to the Illinois House of
19 Representatives on May 14, 2026; and

20 WHEREAS, Andy Busch will retire on July 19, 2026, leaving
21 a legacy of faith and dedication that will not be forgotten by
22 the congregations he has served or the many people his service
23 has touched; therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
2 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
3 we congratulate James Andrew "Andy" Busch on the occasion of
4 his retirement as a pastor at Alpha Baptist Church after 34
5 years of service, and we thank him for his dedication and
6 commitment; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
8 presented to Andy Busch as a symbol of our esteem and respect.