



HR0403

LRB102 18990 LAW 27718 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives wish to congratulate Richard J. "Rick"  
4 Wulbecker on the occasion of his retirement from the Belvidere  
5 Township Park District; and

6           WHEREAS, Rick Wulbecker received his associate's degree  
7 from William Rainey Harper College in 1979; he earned his  
8 Bachelor of Science in Recreation and Park Administration with  
9 a minor in Physical Education (Coaching) from Illinois State  
10 University in 1981; he also graduated from the Illinois Park  
11 and Recreation Association (IPRA) Professional Development  
12 School; he is a National Youth Coaches Effectiveness Certified  
13 Instructor; he is also certified in CPR, AED, First Aid, and  
14 BASSET; and

15           WHEREAS, Rick Wulbecker began his career in parks and  
16 recreation as the athletic supervisor for the Wheeling Park  
17 District, where he worked from 1982 to 1983; and

18           WHEREAS, Rick Wulbecker served as an athletic supervisor,  
19 the facility manager of the Willow Recreation/Racquet Center,  
20 the facility manager of the Blackhawk Community/Fitness  
21 Center, and the community pool facility manager for the  
22 Hoffman Estates Park District from 1983 to 2000; during his

1 tenure, he oversaw adult/youth athletic leagues, preschool to  
2 adult martial arts programs, youth/adult arts and crafts  
3 programs, seasonal sports tournaments, program budgets, and  
4 staff training and evaluations; he was also responsible for  
5 facility budgets and customer service staff training and  
6 evaluations; he coordinated public relations and promotions,  
7 purchasing, concessions, merchandise sales, and inventories;  
8 he helped with the development of building design, building  
9 policies and procedures, and staff orientation for the opening  
10 of Blackhawk Community Center; he also managed the Willow  
11 Skate Park; and

12 WHEREAS, Rick Wulbecker became the athletic director of  
13 the Hanover Park District in 2000; he served until 2003, and  
14 his duties included being responsible for youth/adult athletic  
15 programs and special events, developing and organizing program  
16 budgets, and coordinating and evaluating all athletic  
17 programs, contractual programs, camps, and special events; he  
18 then served as superintendent of Recreation from 2003 to 2016,  
19 where he was responsible for the Recreation Department and  
20 Seafari Springs Aquatic Family Center facility operation,  
21 managed and coordinated community center building supervisor  
22 staff, and coordinated the PDRMA Loss Control Accreditation  
23 process, college student internship program, LCAP/SHARE high  
24 school community programs, and the IPRA Joint Purchase  
25 program; he also served as a legislative liaison and a member

1 of the Safety Committee; he was promoted to executive director  
2 in 2016, and he was directly responsible for managing the  
3 day-to-day operations of the entire agency while carrying out  
4 policies adopted by the Park District Board of Commissioners  
5 and communicating them to the Hanover Park District employees  
6 and community until 2017; his notable achievements included  
7 leading the park district's strategic plan for 2011 and 2016,  
8 creating and emceeding the Annual Park District Staff  
9 Appreciation Dinner Event, serving as the park district's FOIA  
10 officer and notary public, and negotiating two cricket  
11 associations to multi-year rental agreements and the Northwest  
12 Special Recreation Association (NWSRA)/Clearbrook Pursuit 2  
13 program to be located at the park district; and

14 WHEREAS, Rick Wulbecker has served as the superintendent  
15 of Recreation of the Belvidere Township Park District since  
16 2018, where he has been responsible for the Recreation  
17 Department, the Rivers Edge Recreation Center, the William  
18 Grady Pool, the Doty Park Splashpad, the Prairie Fields Sports  
19 Park, the Riverside Ice Arena, and the Baltic Mill facilities  
20 operation; his duties included creating and monitoring  
21 budgets, program development, staff training and evaluation,  
22 customer service staff, registration, marketing, purchasing,  
23 and building/field/aquatic rentals; he also coordinated PDRMA  
24 Loss Control Accreditation process and served as a state  
25 legislative liaison, school district liaison, Safety Committee

1 member, Boone County Arts Council member, and Belvidere Area  
2 Chamber of Commerce member; and

3 WHEREAS, Rick Wulbecker has belonged to a number of  
4 organizations, including the National Recreation and Park  
5 Association (NRPA), the Illinois Park and Recreation  
6 Association (IPRA), the Suburban Park and Recreation  
7 Association (SPRA), and the American Alliance for Health,  
8 Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (AAHPERD); he has  
9 attended Illinois Association of Park Districts and IPRA state  
10 conferences since 1981; he attended NRPA national conferences  
11 in 1983, 2005, 2006, 2007, and 2008; and

12 WHEREAS, Rick Wulbecker has dedicated his life to serving  
13 park districts and local communities over a 35-year career;  
14 therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
16 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
17 we congratulate Richard J. "Rick" Wulbecker on his retirement  
18 from the Belvidere Township Park District, thank him for his  
19 years of service, and wish him all the best in his future  
20 endeavors; and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
22 presented to Rick Wulbecker as an expression of our esteem and

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1 respect.