



SJ0010

LRB102 10241 LAW 15567 r

1 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, It is highly fitting that the General Assembly  
3 pays honor and respect to those individuals who have  
4 contributed to the success of their community, the State, and  
5 to the efforts to cure childhood cancers and other pediatric  
6 diseases; and

7 WHEREAS, Beginning in 2001, Roger and Regina Landon of  
8 Chandlerville have organized numerous horse trail rides at the  
9 Jim Edgar Panther Creek State Fish and Wildlife Area each June  
10 to raise money for the St. Jude's Children's Research  
11 Hospital; and

12 WHEREAS, Since 2001, horse enthusiasts from all over  
13 Central Illinois have been attending the Saddle-Up for St.  
14 Jude event to raise money for children diagnosed with cancer  
15 and other pediatric diseases that are being treated at St.  
16 Jude's; since 2001, a total of \$730,000 has been raised at  
17 these events benefiting the children at St. Jude's Hospital;  
18 and

19 WHEREAS, St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, located  
20 in Memphis, Tennessee, treats children with cancer and other  
21 pediatric diseases at no cost to the patients; research  
22 efforts are directed at understanding the molecular, genetic,

1 and chemical basis of catastrophic diseases in children,  
2 identifying cures for such diseases, and promoting their  
3 prevention; research is focused specifically on cancers,  
4 acquired and inherited immunodeficiency disorders, sickle cell  
5 disease, infectious diseases, and genetic disorders; and

6 WHEREAS, Roger and Regina established these trail rides at  
7 the Jim Edgar Panther Creek State Fish and Wildlife area to  
8 highlight the beautiful facets of nature found at this  
9 wildlife area, to raise funds for the worthy cause of St.  
10 Jude's Children's Research Hospital, to bring horse and fish  
11 enthusiasts together to enjoy the trails of this wildlife  
12 area, and to encourage camping at the area; and

13 WHEREAS, St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital is  
14 associated with Children's Hospital of Illinois, located in  
15 Peoria; and

16 WHEREAS, It is estimated to cost nearly \$1 billion to  
17 operate St. Jude's this year, with the majority of those funds  
18 coming from generous donors; and

19 WHEREAS, Roger and Regina Landon started Saddle Up for St.  
20 Jude's in 2001; their initial goal was to be more successful  
21 than other Saddle Up fundraisers in Illinois, which then  
22 averaged \$3,500; for the first benefit, they acquired

1 donations for the meat to be served, the side dishes, paper  
2 products, and the evening entertainment bands; the event had  
3 Sponsorship Tickets, where each ticket cost \$100 and produced  
4 a winner for every 20 sold; 1st place won a Browning Silver  
5 shotgun, and the next winner won \$400; raffle tickets for half  
6 a beef and cash prizes were also sold; during the weekend of  
7 the event, there was a silent auction, which usually generated  
8 a great deal of the proceeds, with all the items donated by  
9 generous friends and acquaintances; St. Jude's received  
10 \$10,000 after the first benefit, and \$14,000 after the second  
11 year, with the amount increasing each year to over \$55,000  
12 last year; St. Jude's has received a total of \$730,000 and, due  
13 to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, a virtual fundraiser was  
14 held that raised an additional \$35,000 for St. Jude's; this  
15 benefit is well-attended, not only by horse enthusiasts but  
16 also by individuals interested in supporting St. Jude's; and

17 WHEREAS, In 2012, Roger Landon received the Special Event  
18 Coordinator of the Year from St. Jude's, which coincided with  
19 the 50th anniversary for St. Jude's Children's Research  
20 Hospital (1962-2012); Roger and Regina attended the awards  
21 recognition program in Memphis, Tennessee; and

22 WHEREAS, Roger and Regina Landon are personally interested  
23 in the Jim Edgar Panther Creek Equestrian Park, not only  
24 because of it being the location for the St. Jude's benefit but

1 also for their desire to keep the park beautiful and enticing  
2 for everyone to visit and camp; they have initiated taking  
3 care of the flower gardens, each year pruning and replanting  
4 shrubs and flowers as needed and purchasing mulch to beautify  
5 the gardens; and

6 WHEREAS, Roger and Regina Landon enjoy meeting new camp  
7 hosts and assisting them as they settle in their positions;  
8 they have a knack for making them feel comfortable with their  
9 new environment and duties; often, a different camp host is  
10 accepted for the position each year; therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL  
12 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE HOUSE OF  
13 REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING HEREIN, that we designate the  
14 equestrian campground within the Jim Edgar Panther Creek State  
15 Fish and Wildlife Area in Chandlerville as the "Landon  
16 Equestrian Campground"; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That the Department of Natural Resources is  
18 requested to erect at suitable locations, consistent with  
19 State and federal regulations, appropriate plaques or signs  
20 giving notice of the name "Landon Equestrian Campground"; and  
21 be it further

22 RESOLVED, That we commend Roger and Regina Landon on their

1 distinguished volunteerism and their lifelong dedication to  
2 the people of Illinois and to preserving the natural fish and  
3 wildlife areas of Illinois; and be it further

4       RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be  
5 presented to the Director of Natural Resources, Roger Landon,  
6 and Regina Landon.