



HR0750

LRB103 40490 ECR 72900 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives are saddened to hear of the passing of  
4 Franchesco "Frank" Salamone, owner and cofounder of  
5 Franchesco's Ristorante in Rockford, who passed away on  
6 January 2, 2024; and

7 WHEREAS, Frank Salamone was born in Aragon, Sicily on  
8 February 4, 1929; he was raised in a stone house lacking  
9 electricity or running water; from a young age, after the  
10 death of his mother and due to his being the oldest child, he  
11 assumed the role of family protector, a virtue he carried  
12 throughout his life; and

13 WHEREAS, Frank Salamone married Anna Russo Introito in  
14 Sicily on August 11, 1956; together, they had three children,  
15 Benny, Charlie, and Toni; and

16 WHEREAS, After working at a coal mine in England for a  
17 time, Frank Salamone immigrated with his family to the United  
18 States in 1966; he worked hard to provide for his family, often  
19 working multiple jobs in pursuit of the American Dream; and

20 WHEREAS, Frank Salamone possessed a strong entrepreneurial  
21 spirit and opened his first business, a grocery store, with

1 his brother in 1969; on the 20th anniversary of his family  
2 moving to the U.S., he opened the first Franchesco's  
3 Ristorante with his sons on South Perryville Road in Rockford  
4 on October 10, 1986; and

5 WHEREAS, Frank Salamone's family played an integral role  
6 in the family business for many years; while he managed the  
7 pizzas, his son, Benny, worked at the bar and the front of the  
8 house, his son, Charlie, ran the kitchen, and his daughter,  
9 Toni, oversaw the dining room; and

10 WHEREAS, Eventually, Frank Salamone began to slow down,  
11 and his children pursued new endeavors; he sold the building  
12 where the original Francesco's Ristorante stood in 2008, and  
13 with the help of new business partners, he built a new location  
14 on Spring Creek Road where Francesco's Ristorante continues  
15 operating to this day; and

16 WHEREAS, Even in the later years of his life, Frank  
17 Salamone could be found dressed to perfection and greeting  
18 friends, family, and guests in the restaurant dining room,  
19 living his life in accordance with his favorite Italian  
20 expression "la famiglia e tutto", which translates to "family  
21 is everything"; therefore, be it

22 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE

1 HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
2 we mourn the passing of Franchesco "Frank" Salamone and extend  
3 our sincere condolences to his family, friends, and all who  
4 knew and loved him; and be it further

5       RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
6 presented to the family of Frank Salamone as an expression of  
7 our deepest sympathy.