



SR0786

LRB103 39614 LAW 69925 r

1

SENATE RESOLUTION

2

WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate wish to congratulate Becky Cook Kendall on the occasion of her retirement as executive director of the Rockford Regional Health Council after 16 years; and

3

4

5

6

WHEREAS, The Rockford Regional Health Council, located within the University of Illinois College of Medicine Rockford, is a 42-year-old nonprofit organization that works to improve community health through data collection and analysis, education, outreach, and advocacy; and

7

8

9

10

11

WHEREAS, Over the past 16 years, Becky Cook Kendall spearheaded a number of initiatives for the Rockford Regional Health Council, including the Changing Hearts initiative, which addressed health disparities in minority communities with a focus on hypertension through implementing a program that helped bring blood pressure screenings and heart health education to hundreds of participants and assisted in building trust between minority communities and health care workers; and

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

WHEREAS, Through the Rockford Regional Health Council, Becky Cook Kendall helped establish a Rockford Public Schools dentistry program by bringing together health care providers

21

22

1 and other community groups to implement a school-based program
2 that provided access to dental care and preventive services to
3 students, resulting in roughly 10,000 students receiving
4 screenings and oral health care; and

5 WHEREAS, Under Becky Cook Kendall's guidance, the Rockford
6 Regional Health Council successfully supported and obtained a
7 half-cent sales tax increase in Winnebago County, resulting in
8 nearly \$20 million in revenue going towards assisting
9 community mental health related services and programs; and

10 WHEREAS, Prior to leading the Rockford Regional Health
11 Council, Becky Cook Kendall worked for Joseph Behr & Sons from
12 1970 to 1984 and served as vice president of community
13 investment for the United Way of Rock River Valley from 1993 to
14 2007; and

15 WHEREAS, Becky Cook Kendall will be honored for her years
16 of service to the Rockford Regional Health Council at the
17 University of Illinois College of Medicine Rockford on March
18 22, 2024; therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL
20 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we congratulate Becky
21 Cook Kendall on her retirement as executive director of the
22 Rockford Regional Health Council, and we recognize her

1 commitment to serving the communities of the City of Rockford
2 and Winnebago County; and be it further

3 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
4 presented to congratulate Becky Cook Kendall as an expression
5 of our esteem and respect.