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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, Dr. Larry Mortier, Vice President for Advancement and Public Services at Western Illinois University, is retiring on August 1, 2005, by which time he will have completed 34 years in higher education, including 28 years at WIU; and

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WHEREAS, He has served as executive director for the WIU Foundation since 1987 and was named vice president for advancement and public services in 1994; he provides administrative leadership for Western's development office, alumni programs, university relations, visual production center, scholarship office, marketing communications, and intercollegiate athletics; and

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WHEREAS, He served as the University's chief development officer during the Centennial Campaign For Western (1995-2000) which generated \$24.8 million in private gift support; private contributions to the Foundation in support of the University's programs and services totaled \$6.2 million in fiscal year 2003-04, and the assets of the Foundation have more than doubled during his tenure as vice president, currently exceeding \$20.2 million; and

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WHEREAS, Dr. Mortier has been instrumental in the University and community's relationship with the National Football League's St. Louis Rams, who have held summer training camp at WIU for nine years; he has been Western's representative to the Macomb Area Economic Development Corporation (MAEDCO) since 1994 and currently serves as MAEDCO's vice president; and

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WHEREAS, His 11-year tenure as vice president included the expansion of WIU Alumni Association programming and services, the growth of the WIU Foundation's scholarship program, the development of the University's official web site, the Visual

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1 Production Center transition of photographic services to
2 digital format and enhanced large format display capability,
3 and a year-long Centennial Celebration; he established the
4 University's first governmental relations office and led the
5 adoption of a formal integrated marketing approach to
6 University communications; and

7 WHEREAS, Western athletics programs won five Mid-Continent
8 Conference Commissioners Cups for overall program excellence,
9 including 24 team championships, during Dr. Mortier's
10 administration; the football program won five Gateway
11 Conference titles and made six NCAA Division 1AA National
12 Playoff appearances; he has strongly supported the
13 institution's commitment to gender equity in athletics, which
14 included the addition of women's soccer and golf; and

15 WHEREAS, Before being named vice president, he served as
16 director of development at Western from 1986 to 1994 and as
17 associate director of admissions for community college
18 relations from 1983 to 1984; he was a member of Western's
19 football coaching staff as assistant head coach from 1979 to
20 1983; and

21 WHEREAS, He earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in
22 education at Western in 1970 and 1971 and his doctorate in
23 educational administration from Southern Illinois University
24 in 1995; and

25 WHEREAS, His wife Sandy earned her bachelor's and master's
26 degree at Western; she has been a teacher at St. Paul's Grade
27 School for more than 25 years; the Mortiers have a daughter,
28 Nicole, who is a physician assistant at St. Jude Children's
29 Research Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee, and a son, Joe, who is
30 a teacher and coach at El Dorado High School in Las Vegas,
31 Nevada; therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
2 NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
3 we congratulate Dr. Larry Mortier on the occasion of his
4 retirement and we thank him for his dedication and commitment
5 to higher education and his outstanding leadership at Western
6 Illinois University; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
8 presented to him as an expression of our respect and esteem.