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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are pleased to congratulate the members of the
4 Elmhurst Symphony on the occasion of the organization's 50th
5 anniversary; and

6 WHEREAS, The Elmhurst community has a long and proud
7 tradition of coming together to enjoy well-performed symphonic
8 music by its volunteer community musicians; the origin of
9 Elmhurst's organized musical activity may go back to the 1920s
10 and evolved with the desire of its volunteer musicians to
11 continually improve their skills; from 1959 to 1961, the
12 community musicians evolved from the Elmhurst Community
13 Orchestra into the Elmhurst Symphony Orchestra, led by its
14 first Music Director John Lazic; the Elmhurst Symphony
15 Orchestra held its first performance on November 19, 1961; and

16 WHEREAS, The Elmhurst Symphony Orchestra has been greatly
17 aided by the help and encouragement of Elmhurst College; in its
18 formative years, Dr. Robert Stanger, former President of
19 Elmhurst College, served as Board President of the Elmhurst
20 Symphony from 1968 to 1972; and

21 WHEREAS, The last 30 years has seen more growing diverse
22 and complex musical challenges that the Elmhurst Symphony

1 successfully accomplished; the symphony's growth has also
2 invited more and more talented professional musicians to be a
3 part of its rich symphonic traditions; and

4 WHEREAS, The growing reputation of superior quality
5 performances of the Elmhurst Symphony has expanded enormously
6 with the nationally renowned leadership of Dr. Stephen Alltop,
7 who is now in his 15th season as the Elmhurst Symphony
8 Orchestra's Music Director; under Dr. Alltop's direction, the
9 Elmhurst Symphony completed a performance cycle of Beethoven's
10 Symphonies, presented Mahler's Symphonies 1, 2, and 3, and has
11 given world premieres of works by Alan Terricciano, Jan Bach,
12 James Clemens, Miguel del Aguila, Frank Ferko, and Maxwell
13 Raimi; the Elmhurst Symphony has also received recognition from
14 the Illinois Council of Orchestras for innovative programming,
15 volunteer activities, and overall achievement; and

16 WHEREAS, The Elmhurst Symphony Orchestra serves as a model
17 of hard work, integrity, and dedication for the people of the
18 State of Illinois; therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
20 NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
21 congratulate the members of the Elmhurst Symphony on the
22 occasion of the organization's 50th anniversary and wish them
23 continued success and happiness in the future; and be it

1 further

2 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
3 presented to Dr. Stephen Alltop as a symbol of our esteem and
4 respect.