WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives are pleased to recognize the Joliet Area Community Hospice on the occasion of its 30th anniversary; and

WHEREAS, The Joliet Area Community Hospice is a not-for-profit hospice established in 1982 under the tutelage of Rosemary Bowe, the first executive director; it has served over 21,000 terminally-ill persons, their loved ones, and caregivers with dignity in the counties of Will, Grundy, and Kendall along with parts of Cook, DuPage, and Kankakee; and

WHEREAS, 1986 saw the Joliet Area Community Hospice receive full licensing from the State of Illinois Department of Public Health and Mary Jo Smith named the second executive director; and

WHEREAS, Duane Krieger became the Joliet Area Community Hospice's third executive director in 1992; and

WHEREAS, The Joliet Area Community Hospice opened the first free-standing hospice home in the State of Illinois on May 4, 2004; and

WHEREAS, The Joliet Area Community Hospice has an
established pediatric program dedicated to serving infants, children, and their families; it has a Pride, Honor, and Dignity Veterans Hospice program; and

WHEREAS, The Joliet Area Community Hospice receives financial support from the United Way of Will County, the United Way of Grundy County, and thousands of individuals, business owners, and social and civic organizations; and

WHEREAS, The current CEO of the Joliet Area Community Hospice, Rick Kasper, took over in 2009; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we recognize the Joliet Area Community Hospice on the 30th anniversary of its founding and thank the administrators and employees past and present for the compassionate and valuable services they provide; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the Joliet Area Community Hospice as an expression of our esteem and respect.