



HR0423

LRB098 12198 GRL 46409 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are pleased to congratulate the members of
4 Western Illinois Electrical Coop. on the 75th anniversary of
5 their cooperative; and

6 WHEREAS, Western Illinois Electrical Coop. was officially
7 formed on August 1, 1938 in Carthage, Illinois, through the
8 hard work and dedication of a handful of local residents
9 wanting to improve living and farming conditions for themselves
10 and their neighbors; and

11 WHEREAS, Because of the lack of density, it simply wasn't
12 possible for the for-profit utilities to make a profit serving
13 rural areas with only a few farms or homes per mile of electric
14 line; with the help of loans from the Rural Electrification
15 Administration (REA), the people living in these rural areas
16 banded together to form member-owned and member-governed
17 electric cooperatives; and

18 WHEREAS, This group of local residents went door to door
19 signing up their neighbors to become members of Western
20 Illinois Electrical Coop. and convincing them that a
21 cooperative would bring lights and power to the rural area; and

1 WHEREAS, Their hard work paid off and Western Illinois
2 Electrical Coop.'s lines were first energized on January 10,
3 1940, initially serving 716 member-owners in Hancock County;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Western Illinois Electrical Coop. continues to
6 provides reliable electric service to member-owners in Adams,
7 Hancock, Henderson, and McDonough counties; and

8 WHEREAS, For 75 years, the cooperative has served its
9 member-owners based on 7 guiding principles: voluntary and open
10 membership, member-elected and controlled boards of directors,
11 members' economic participation, autonomy and independence,
12 education and training, cooperation among cooperatives, and
13 concern for community; therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
15 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
16 we congratulate the members of the Western Illinois Electrical
17 Coop. on the 75th anniversary of their cooperative; and be it
18 further

19 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
20 presented to Western Illinois Electrical Coop. as a symbol of
21 our esteem and respect.