



HR0583

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to honor the life of former State
4 Representative Frederick Harris Rowe of Jacksonville, who
5 passed away at the age of 89 on September 8, 2013, ending an
6 exceptional life of community and political service; and

7 WHEREAS, Harris Rowe was born on November 10, 1923 in
8 Jacksonville; he was educated in the Jacksonville school system
9 and graduated from Jacksonville High School with the Class of
10 1941; he subsequently earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from
11 Illinois College in Jacksonville; and

12 WHEREAS, During World War II, Harris Rowe served in the
13 United States Army Air Corps and served in the South Pacific
14 Theater; he later earned his Juris Doctorate from Northwestern
15 University Law School; and

16 WHEREAS, After receiving his law degree in 1950, Harris
17 Rowe joined his father in the administration of Central
18 National Life Insurance Company, where he served as secretary
19 and treasurer; he later served as president and CEO after the
20 death of his father; and

21 WHEREAS, Harris Rowe married the love of his life, Alice

1 Mary Crabtree, on December 22, 1954 in Jacksonville; and

2 WHEREAS, In addition to his successful career as a
3 businessman, Harris Rowe held many leadership positions within
4 his community, including chairman of the Board of Trustees of
5 MacMurray College, chairman of the Board of Trustees of
6 Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, director of the
7 Illinois State Chamber of Commerce, president of the
8 Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce, president of the
9 Jacksonville Kiwanis Club, and a member of the Morgan County,
10 Illinois, and American Bar Associations; and

11 WHEREAS, When Harris Rowe was in junior high, he contracted
12 polio; as a survivor, he served as chairman of the Morgan
13 County Chapter of the National Polio Foundation for many years;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, Harris Rowe also had a love of politics which was
16 instilled in him through his father, Richard Yates Rowe, who
17 served as State Treasurer and Secretary of State, and his
18 great-uncles, Illinois Governors Richard Yates and Richard
19 Yates Jr.; and

20 WHEREAS, The political career of Harris Rowe includes 35
21 years as precinct committeeman, 28 years as chairman of the
22 Morgan County Republican Central Committee, and 8 years as

1 alderman for the City of Jacksonville; he served as State
2 Representative of the 49th District in the Illinois General
3 Assembly with the Republican Caucus for 6 years; he was also
4 one of 59 successful Republican candidates on the State-wide
5 at-large ballot in 1964 and was the Republican candidate for
6 State Treasurer in 1966; and

7 WHEREAS, Harris Rowe served as director of the Young
8 Republicans organization and was elected as a delegate to the
9 Republican National Convention twice; and

10 WHEREAS, Above all, Harris Rowe was a dedicated family man
11 who was a devoted to his wife, his 4 daughters, his 7
12 grandchildren, and his 2 great-grandchildren; therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
14 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
15 we honor the life of Harris Rowe, acknowledge the passing of a
16 remarkable man who was committed to serving others, and offer
17 our sincere condolences to his family and friends; and be it
18 further

19 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
20 presented to the family of Harris Rowe as an expression of our
21 sincere sympathy and gratitude to a man who dedicated his life
22 to community and political service and was an asset to the

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1 Republican Party.