



HR1365

LRB099 22541 MST 49966 r

1

HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to congratulate William R. "Bill" Kreeb on
4 the occasion of his retirement as President and CEO of the
5 Lessie Bates Davis Neighborhood House; and

6 WHEREAS, William Kreeb has served as President and CEO of
7 the Lessie Bates Davis Neighborhood House, a United Methodist
8 Community Center, since 1981; he grew up in Kentucky and worked
9 in mission in the Appalachia Region prior to coming to the
10 Neighborhood House; and

11 WHEREAS, Upon becoming President and CEO, William Kreeb
12 began helping the Lessie Bates Davis Neighborhood House meet
13 the ongoing child care needs of the community; he, along with
14 others, worked to obtain the first At-Risk Infant and Toddler
15 Child Care Program; the Neighborhood House went on to become
16 the first nationally accredited child care program in the City
17 of East St. Louis; in 1993, he helped develop a
18 state-of-the-art child care facility at the East St. Louis
19 Family Development Center, which continues today as a Gold Star
20 Rated Child Care Center; and

21 WHEREAS, Under the direction of William Kreeb, the Lessie
22 Bates Davis Neighborhood House was one of several agencies that

1 took the lead in developing new and innovative strategies to
2 help people find jobs; with the help of Representative Wyvetter
3 Younge and the East St. Louis Chamber of Commerce, the
4 Neighborhood House started the East St. Louis Small Business
5 Incubator, which resulted in supporting 46 minority owned and
6 operated businesses; and

7 WHEREAS, William Kreeb addressed the housing crisis in the
8 community, working with Habitat for Humanity to build safe and
9 affordable housing, which developed into a Partnership with
10 Catholic Urban Programs, East Side Heart and Home, and the
11 Family Center to develop the Neighborhood Faith Based Housing
12 Program; in the subsequent years, the partnership has built
13 many new homes in the community and provided mission volunteer
14 opportunities; he still enjoys working on houses throughout the
15 community to help those in need; and

16 WHEREAS, William Kreeb helped obtain a one time grant
17 through the United Way to help develop the St. Clair County
18 Youth Coalition, which has continued over the past 15 years,
19 bringing together more than 65 agencies in St. Clair County;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, William Kreeb is proud to be part of the
22 development of East Side Aligned and their commitment to
23 changing and improving how all agencies and organizations work

1 together to make sure children and youth have the support they
2 need to be successful in school and in life; therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
4 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
5 congratulate William R. "Bill" Kreeb on his retirement as
6 President and CEO of the Lessie Bates Davis Neighborhood House
7 and we wish him the best in all his future endeavors; and be it
8 further

9 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
10 presented to William Kreeb as an expression of our esteem and
11 respect.