



HR0256

LRB101 11903 ALS 58933 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, Clark County was formed out of Crawford County in 1819; at that time, Clark County included about a third of Illinois and extended as far north as the present state of Wisconsin; and

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WHEREAS, Clark County was named for Brigadier General George Rogers Clark, an officer of the Army of Virginia who captured the Northwest Territory from the British during the Revolutionary War and was also the older brother of William Clark of the Lewis and Clark Expedition; and

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WHEREAS, In 1821, the northern part of Clark County became part of the newly-created Pike County, and the newly-created Fayette County took the western part of Clark County; Edgar County was created from the northern part of Clark County in 1823; the creation of Coles County occupied additional land from western Clark County in 1830; and

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WHEREAS, Clark County includes the communities of Casey, Darwin, Marshall, Martinsville, Moonshine, Oilfield, Westfield, and West Union and the townships of Auburn, Casey, Darwin, Dolson, Douglas, Johnson, Marshall, Martinsville, Melrose, Orange, Parker, Wabash, Westfield, and York; and

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1           WHEREAS, The first Clark County Courthouse was a log house  
2 in Aurora; in 1823, the county seat was located in Darwin  
3 Township; in 1838, the county seat was moved to Marshall by a  
4 "vote of the people"; and

5           WHEREAS, Abraham Lincoln tried court cases in the third  
6 courthouse in Marshall, and reproductions of several of his  
7 court documents are on display near the current County  
8 Treasurer's Office; and

9           WHEREAS, A variety of activities for families and visitors  
10 have been planned for the year-long Bicentennial Celebration,  
11 including historical displays, presentations, and art  
12 exhibits, as well as a trivia night, a "Cheers to 200 Years"  
13 dinner, a Music of the Ages program to celebrate over 200 years  
14 of melodies, a Smithsonian exhibit, "Crossroads: Change in  
15 Rural America," and the Popcorn Festival in Casey; the  
16 cemeteries will be marked with information about specific  
17 headstones, and the public is encouraged to visit the over 40  
18 cemeteries in the county; and

19           WHEREAS, The Bicentennial Celebration activities are being  
20 sponsored and supported by various communities and  
21 organizations, including the Clark County Board, the Clark  
22 County Historical Society, the Casey Historical Society, the  
23 Marshall Area Chamber of Commerce, the Casey United Methodist

1 Church, the Casey-Westfield Arts Hall, the Casey Public  
2 Library, the Smithsonian Institution, the Marshall Public  
3 Library, the Martinsville Community Center, the Gaslight Art  
4 Colony, the Casey Chamber of Commerce, the Clark County Retired  
5 Teachers, the Daughters of the American Revolution, the City of  
6 Marshall Municipal Band, the Clark County Endowment, and the  
7 Clark County Development Organization; therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
9 HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
10 we congratulate the residents of Clark County on the occasion  
11 of the county's bicentennial; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be  
13 presented to the Clark County Board and the Clark County  
14 Historical Society as an expression of our esteem and respect.