



HR0644

LRB100 14345 MST 29124 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to congratulate Chief James P. "Jay"
4 Reardon on the occasion of his retirement as CEO of MABAS-IL;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Chief Reardon's career includes over 30 years in
7 the emergency services field within various local and federal
8 government positions; he began in Evergreen Park, where he
9 served as a cadet, firefighter, and apparatus engineer; he then
10 accepted an entry-level firefighter position with the Hoffman
11 Estates Fire Department, where he received paramedic
12 certification and promotions to the rank of tactical lieutenant
13 and captain-shift commander; during his tenure with Hoffman
14 Estates Fire Department, he also served as an on-call
15 firefighter for Cary; and

16 WHEREAS, Chief Reardon was recruited to Portage, Michigan
17 as assistant fire chief of emergency operations; he was
18 promoted to the position of fire chief for Portage; he was then
19 recruited to Collier County, Florida as administrator of
20 division of emergency services; he was subsequently recruited
21 to the position of fire chief for the Village of Northbrook;
22 and

1 WHEREAS, Chief Reardon was the area incident commander in
2 charge of mobilization and deployment of mutual aid emergency
3 forces responding to Chicago's LaSalle Bank Building Fire, the
4 Metra train crash, the Utica tornado, and Hurricane Katrina in
5 Louisiana; and

6 WHEREAS, Chief Reardon attended the National Fire Academy;
7 he has a Bachelor of Science in Fire Service Management from
8 Southern Illinois University - Carbondale and graduated with
9 honors from Western Michigan University with a Master of Public
10 Administration; he was recently awarded a postgraduate Harvard
11 University Scholarship to the John F. Kennedy School of
12 Government; in 2003, he was awarded the Chief Fire Officer
13 designation by the Commission on Fire Accreditation
14 International, Inc.; and

15 WHEREAS, Chief Reardon was named Illinois Fire Chief of the
16 Year by his peers and colleagues at the 2002 Illinois Fire
17 Chiefs Annual Symposium; he was named Fire Chiefs Magazine's
18 International Career Fire Chief of the Year in 2002; in 2003,
19 he was awarded the International Fire Chiefs prestigious
20 President's Leadership Award for championing inter-state
21 mutual aid initiatives; he was also selected by the
22 International Association of Fire Chiefs as one of three
23 selected experts in the development and publication of their
24 NFPA 1710 Implementation Guide for Fire Chiefs; and

1 WHEREAS, Chief Reardon is past president of the Illinois
2 Fire Chiefs Association and was appointed by Governor Ryan to
3 serve on the 2000 Blue Ribbon Panel for fire service issues
4 along with the statewide Terrorism Preparedness Task Force; he
5 previously served as Illinois Fire Chiefs' representative to
6 the Great Lakes Division Board of the International Association
7 of Fire Chiefs; he serves on several national committees
8 including the International Association of Fire Chiefs
9 Domestic Terrorism Committee, the Homeland Security
10 Coordinating Council, the Emergency Responder Technology
11 Transfer Group, and the National Mutual Aid Task Force; and

12 WHEREAS, Chief Reardon's career also involved services
13 within the federal government; he served as liaison between the
14 Department of Defense and local communities in the reuse,
15 economic redevelopment, and civilian conversion of military
16 institutions scheduled for closure; he was an active reservist
17 with the United States Air Force, previously assigned to F-16
18 Tactical Units and C-130 Airlift Wings; he was selected as
19 Disaster Preparedness Officer of the Year for the Air Force
20 Reserve; he served as officer in charge of readiness for 22nd
21 Air Force, Dobbins Air Force Base, Georgia; his military career
22 concluded in November of 2004 when he retired after 28 years of
23 service; and

1 WHEREAS, Chief Reardon has instructed at various colleges
2 and conferences and authored numerous articles published in
3 various trade journals; therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
5 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
6 congratulate Chief James P. "Jay" Reardon on his retirement as
7 CEO of MABAS-IL, and we wish him the best in all his future
8 endeavors; and be it further

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