



HR0659

LRB100 15366 MST 30347 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives wish to congratulate Pease's Candy, located in Springfield, on the occasion of its 100th anniversary; and

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WHEREAS, In the early 1900s, Martin A. Pease Sr., a watch maker by trade, began making candies out of his Canton, Ohio home; and

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WHEREAS, In 1917, Martin Pease moved to Bloomington and shortly thereafter went into the candy business full time, hawking his homemade caramels and chocolates to moviegoers at the Majestic Theater in Bloomington with his six sons; and

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WHEREAS, When the Great Depression ravaged the nation, Martin Pease founded two more candy stores owned by his two youngest sons, one in Decatur and one in Springfield, because the single store in Bloomington could not support the whole family; and

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WHEREAS, Martin Pease Jr., the youngest son of Martin Pease Sr., went to extraordinary efforts to keep the candy business afloat during the Great Depression, even eating leftover candy for dinner when sales were slow; and

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1           WHEREAS, The business was eventually bought by Bob Flesher,  
2 Martin Pease Jr.'s nephew, who continued the proud tradition of  
3 quality and consistency set fourth my Martin Pease Sr. and  
4 continued in the family for four generations; and

5           WHEREAS, Pease's Candy continues to innovate in the  
6 marketplace, partnering with BUNN, a Springfield-based company  
7 known worldwide for its commercial and home dispensed beverage  
8 equipment, to open a store at 2941 Plaza Drive in Springfield;  
9 and

10           WHEREAS, The original Pease's still operates out of a  
11 storefront at 1701 South State Street and has established  
12 itself as a Springfield staple known throughout the Midwest for  
13 its chocolates and specialty candies; and

14           WHEREAS, For the past 100 years, Pease's Candy has been a  
15 proud part of the Springfield community; therefore, be it

16           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
17 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
18 recognize the 100th anniversary of Pease's Candy, and we wish  
19 it many more years of success; and be it further

20           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
21 presented to Pease's Candy as a symbol of our respect and

HR0659

-3-

LRB100 15366 MST 30347 r

1 esteem.