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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representative are saddened to learn of the death of Dr. Leland Phipps, who passed away May 22, 2017; and

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WHEREAS, Dr. Phipps was born in Kankakee to Odgen and Margaret Phipps on November 20, 1952; he received his engineering degree from Northwestern University and went on to earn his medical degree at the University of Illinois Medical Center in 1978; he completed his residency in family practice at the University of Kansas; and

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WHEREAS, Dr. Phipps began his career in rural medicine at the Paris Medical Center Clinic in 1981, where he practiced for the next 36 years, becoming an integral part of the community; and

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WHEREAS, Due to the great shortage of obstetric services in rural areas, early in his career, Dr. Phipps delivered numerous babies, averaging 200 arrivals from the stork annually; he did this without a partner for several years, requiring him to be on call 24 hours a day; and

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WHEREAS, During his many years of service to his hospital, Dr. Phipps was seen as their patriarch, taking many leadership

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1 roles as chief of staff, hospital board member, and the
2 director of both the Diabetes Management Program and the
3 Respiratory Therapy Department, where he mentored many
4 students who went on to achieve successful careers in
5 healthcare; and

6 WHEREAS, In addition to serving on the Edgar County Board
7 of Health, Dr. Phipps was an active member in a variety of
8 professional associations both at the local and international
9 levels, including the American Academy of Family Physicians,
10 the American Diabetes Association, the Edgar County Medical
11 Society, the Southern Illinois Medical Association, the
12 Illinois State Medical Society, and the World Organization of
13 Family Doctors; and

14 WHEREAS, Dr. Phipps was viewed by many as the last of the
15 typical country doctors, seeing who ever needed to be seen in a
16 day, regardless of the number of patients he already had
17 scheduled; and

18 WHEREAS, Dr. Phipps shared his medical expertise as a
19 clinical instructor at both Southern Illinois University and
20 the University of Illinois; and

21 WHEREAS, Dr. Phipps received the 2017 Rural Physician of
22 Excellence Award posthumously from the Illinois Rural Health

1 Association; and

2 WHEREAS, Dr. Phipps was a passionate fan of his beloved
3 Chicago Cubs; and

4 WHEREAS, Dr. Phipps made a huge impact improving the
5 healthcare environment in eastern Illinois, through the many
6 generations of families he treated, as well as the students he
7 inspired, and his death has left a tremendous void in the
8 community; therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
10 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
11 mourn the passing of Dr. Leland Phipps and extend our sincere
12 condolences to his family, friends and all who knew and loved
13 him; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy be presented to his family
15 and loved ones as an expression of our deepest sympathy.