



HR0066

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Marvin E. Perzee, who passed away on July 17, 2019; and

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WHEREAS, Marvin Perzee was born in Watseka to Nellie (Koets) Perzee on October 9, 1942; and

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WHEREAS, Marvin Perzee and his wife, Sharon, grew up around agriculture and county fairs and were both heavily involved with the Ashkum Chargers, their local 4-H club; Marvin was a volunteer for the Chargers for five decades; and

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WHEREAS, Marvin Perzee was first elected to the Iroquois County Agricultural and 4-H Club Fair Board in 1967 and later served as president for 48 years; and

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WHEREAS, Marvin Perzee had an unrivaled knowledge of the inner workings of the Iroquois County Fair; during his tenure, the fairgrounds built multiple new buildings and expanded the fair to become one of the premier county fairs in Illinois; he could even name how many ash trees were on the fairgrounds; and

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WHEREAS, Marvin Perzee held many leadership roles in the Illinois Association of Agricultural Fairs, including Northern

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1 Zone President, director, and president; he dedicated 40 years
2 of service in the role of legislative chair; and

3 WHEREAS, Marvin Perzee was a tireless and highly
4 successful advocate at the state level for the importance of
5 adequate funding for county fairs to not only serve as
6 economic engines for rural communities across the State but
7 also to cultivate for the younger generations an interest in
8 agricultural careers; and

9 WHEREAS, Because of Marvin Perzee's vast knowledge and
10 expertise in the workings of county fairs, he was appointed to
11 serve on the Illinois Amusement Ride and Attraction Safety
12 Board; and

13 WHEREAS, Together with his wife, Sharon, Marvin Perzee was
14 instrumental in advocating for issues affecting farmers and
15 agriculture and was successful at lobbying for legislation in
16 Springfield, such as exempting farm machinery from sales
17 taxes, as well as increasing fair funding for all Illinois
18 county fairs, 4-H, and vocational agricultural sectional
19 fairs; and

20 WHEREAS, Marvin Perzee served as the Iroquois County
21 Republican Chairman and as a member of the Agricultural
22 Advisory Board under former Congressman Tom Ewing; he was

1 honored by Prairie Farmer Magazine as one of four Master
2 Farmers in 1999; he received a number of other awards during
3 his life in recognition of his service; and

4 WHEREAS, Marvin Perzee was preceded in death by his
5 mother, one brother, one daughter, one grandson, and one
6 niece; and

7 WHEREAS, Marvin Perzee is survived by his wife, Sharon;
8 his two brothers; his daughter; his two sons-in-law; his eight
9 grandchildren; his six great-grandchildren; and his two nieces
10 and nephews; therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
12 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
13 we mourn the passing of Marvin E. Perzee and extend our sincere
14 condolences to his family, friends, and all who knew and loved
15 him; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That we declare May 20, 2021 as "Marvin Perzee
17 County Fair Day" in the State of Illinois to honor his
18 significant contributions to the Iroquois County Fair and
19 agriculture; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
21 presented to the family of Marvin Perzee as an expression of

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1 our deepest sympathy.