



HR0144

LRB102 17522 LAW 23126 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Kenneth  
4 R. "Coach" Geiger of Hillside, who passed away on January 21,  
5 2021; and

6           WHEREAS, Ken Geiger was born in Berwyn on December 30,  
7 1931; he was a lifelong resident of Berwyn; he attended St.  
8 Leonard School in Berwyn; he graduated from Fenwick High  
9 School in Oak Park in 1949, where he played football and boxed  
10 for three years; he earned his Bachelor of Science from  
11 Monmouth College, where he was an all-conference guard and  
12 helped the football team to conference championships during  
13 his junior and senior years; he served in the 101st Airborne  
14 Division of the U.S. Army in Korea; he obtained his master's  
15 degree from the University of Illinois; he earned his  
16 doctorate in Education from the University of Missouri; and

17           WHEREAS, Ken Geiger coached football while earning his  
18 master's and doctoral degrees; he was the freshman football  
19 offensive line coach at the University of Illinois; he served  
20 as the assistant varsity line coach at the University of  
21 Missouri; he returned to Monmouth College as the varsity line  
22 coach and led the football team to an undefeated conference  
23 championship; and

1           WHEREAS, Ken Geiger had a 34-year career in the J.  
2 Sterling Morton High School District, where he served as a  
3 teacher, the head football coach, a wrestling coach, the  
4 athletic director, and a department chair; and

5           WHEREAS, Ken Geiger entered professional football in the  
6 1980s; he served as a scout for the Chicago Bears for 11 years,  
7 and he was with the team when they won Super Bowl XX in 1986;  
8 he later worked as a scout for the Indianapolis Colts for five  
9 years and the New Orleans Saints for three years;  
10 internationally, he was a moving force in bringing American  
11 football to Europe, where he taught football to European  
12 youths and represented the NFL as a clinician; and

13           WHEREAS, Ken Geiger was named to the Monmouth College Hall  
14 of Fame in 1996; he was also named to the IHSA Hall of Fame; he  
15 was an emeritus member of the American Association of Football  
16 Coaches; he was a member of the Chicago Catholic League's Hall  
17 of Fame; his family was named the Monmouth College Family of  
18 the Year in 2011; and

19           WHEREAS, Ken Geiger was known for being a father figure to  
20 his students and one of the foremost ambassadors of Morton  
21 High School; he will be remembered for the impact he made on  
22 the lives of his students; and

1           WHEREAS, Ken Geiger was the husband of Sheryl J. (Johnson)  
2           for 67 years; the father of Gary (Ana Maria), Kevin (Jeane  
3           Gentile), Joni (James) Russo, Susan, and Eric (Amy); the son  
4           of the late Joseph J. and the late Ann M. (Zaher) Geiger; the  
5           grandfather of Joseph Bratta, Sean Geiger, and Niko Muniz; the  
6           great-grandfather to Mia Rose, Joseph, and Layla Bratta; the  
7           brother of the late Joseph (Nancy) Geiger; the brother-in-law  
8           of Celinda (Bob) Prater; and the uncle and great-uncle to  
9           many; therefore, be it

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

15           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
16           presented to the family of Ken Geiger as an expression of our  
17           deepest sympathy.