



HR0198

LRB102 17528 ECR 23134 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The Giant City Lodge is located within the boundaries of Giant City State Park and located in parts of Jackson and Union Counties in Southern Illinois; and

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WHEREAS, The Giant City Lodge was built by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) in 1934 and 1935; and

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WHEREAS, In the early summer of 1946, work began to make the six cabins located near the lodge even more comfortable and convenient; this helped the Giant City Lodge establish a thriving business; and

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WHEREAS, Increasing dining room business created the need to add a new dining room to the Giant City Lodge; the Bald Knob Room was added in 1958, followed by the Shawnee Room in 1969; and

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WHEREAS, Since its construction, the biggest improvements to the Giant City Lodge occurred under Governor James Thompson's Build Illinois Program; this program was started in 1985, over half a century after President Roosevelt's CCC was commissioned; and

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WHEREAS, The twelve original overnight cabins, which were

1 beginning to deteriorate, were removed, and twelve new cabins
2 were added; built on the same site as the "historic" cabins,
3 the new cabins were built, styled, and finished exactly the
4 same as the original ones; and

5 WHEREAS, In addition to the historic cabins, 22 new cabins
6 were built around the Granite City Lodge, along with outdoor
7 swimming and kiddie pools; and

8 WHEREAS, In 1981, a new era of management and hospitality
9 began as Richard A. Kelley, with his son Mike, became the 6th
10 concessionaire of the Giant City Lodge; and; and

11 WHEREAS, In 2021, Richard and Michael Kelley and the
12 Kelley Family celebrated 40 years of service in running the
13 operations of the Giant City Lodge; and

14 WHEREAS, The Kelley family has welcomed visitors both
15 local and distant; they have been accommodating to those who
16 drive from local communities as well as those touring the
17 region's orchards, vineyards, and parks; and

18 WHEREAS, The staff of the Giant City Lodge provide a high
19 level of hospitality for everyone who visits; therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE

1 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
2 we congratulate the Kelley Family on their success and thank
3 them for their tireless work to preserve the history and
4 beauty of the Giant City Lodge, which has served as a gathering
5 place for family dinners and celebrations of all kinds for 40
6 years; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution shall be
8 presented to Richard and Michael Kelly, the Kelley Family, and
9 to the staff of the Giant City Lodge.