



HR0264

LRB102 18316 MST 26059 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of The Illinois House of Representatives would like to congratulate Richard Kopczick on the occasion of his retirement from the office of Mayor of the City of Morris; and

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WHEREAS, Mayor Kopczick has served as Morris' mayor for over 21 years after first being elected in 2001; and

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WHEREAS, Mayor Kopczick was born and raised in Morris and attended Morris schools, graduating from Morris Community High School; and

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WHEREAS, Mayor Kopczick was the meat department manager at D&S Foods; he served as the 4th Ward Alderman from 1995 to 2001, sitting on the Finance Committee and the Parks and Annexation Committee; and

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WHEREAS, Mayor Kopczick spearheaded the expansion of the original sewage treatment plant and implemented the city's first water and sewer impact fee policy; and

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WHEREAS, Mayor Kopczick helped to complete the greatest amount of annexation in mayoral history in Morris, consisting of several thousand acres, which were annexed into the

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1 corporate city limits for future development, including the
2 Brisbin Road interchange and the east side sewage treatment
3 plant; and

4 WHEREAS, Mayor Kopczick was instrumental in providing
5 affordable housing lots to Habitat for Humanity, cleaning up
6 over 400,000 square feet of demolished buildings for future
7 residential development, replacing the Morris swimming pool
8 with a new, state-of-the-art facility, and spearheading
9 several commercial and industrial developments for companies
10 such as Proctor & Gamble, Prologis, and several other
11 retailers; and

12 WHEREAS, In addition, Mayor Kopczick assisted in the
13 fundraising and construction of a historical replica of the
14 I&M Canal Boat and Port Plaza Park, the construction of a
15 September 11 memorial, and the Lower Goold Park band shell;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, Mayor Kopczick prides himself on preserving the
18 Morris historical downtown retail district, supporting
19 community events such as Cruise Nights, and allowing for
20 on-street dining in an effort to allow for easier downtown
21 dining; and

22 WHEREAS, Mayor Kopczick enjoys spending his free time with

1 his wife of 40 years, Jill, his three children, and two
2 grandchildren, which he will continue to do in his retirement;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, In his retirement, Mayor Kopczick will continue
5 being active in the community by participating in various
6 organizations, including the Knights of Columbus, the
7 Fraternal Order of Eagles, the Sons of the American Legion,
8 and the VFW Men's Auxiliary; therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
10 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
11 we congratulate Richard Kopczick on his retirement from
12 serving as mayor of the City of Morris and commend him for his
13 devoted service to his community; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
15 presented to Mayor Kopczick as a symbol of our respect and
16 esteem.