



HR0292

LRB102 18383 ECR 26257 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to congratulate Robert "Bob" A. Runnels
4 Sr. on his retirement from serving as alderman of the 6th
5 district of the City of North Chicago; and

6 WHEREAS, Robert Runnels, retired Navy journalist and
7 former TV news reporter and photographer, received most of his
8 journalism training while serving in the Navy; he attended
9 various Navy schools, including the Navy's Class "B" School
10 (Advanced Course) at Great Lakes and the University of
11 Nebraska at Omaha; in 1968, he served a tour of duty for the
12 Navy in the Republic of South Vietnam; and

13 WHEREAS, While in the Navy, Robert Runnels was involved in
14 writing news releases, news photography, radio, and
15 television; he was editor and sports editor of several Navy
16 command newspapers; he is considered the "last uniformed
17 military editor of the Great Lakes Bulletin," which is the
18 base newspaper at the Great Lakes Naval Station; he was a force
19 historian journalist from 1968 to 1969; he assisted Navy
20 officer historians and also wrote documents recording the Navy
21 and Marine Corps roles in South Vietnam in 1968 and 1969; and

22 WHEREAS, After 20 years of U.S. Naval service, Robert

1 Runnels joined the KMTV news staff in Omaha, Nebraska in 1971;
2 at KMTV, he was a general and beat assignment
3 reporter-photographer and hosted a weekly community affairs TV
4 talk show entitled "Expressions"; he left KMTV in 1983 and
5 moved to Washington State in October of 1984; he remained
6 semi-retired except for a nearly 10-year stint as a journalism
7 instructor at Big Bend Community College in Moses Lake,
8 Washington; and

9 WHEREAS, Robert Runnels is a three-term alderman of the
10 6th Ward of the City of North Chicago, Illinois; and

11 WHEREAS, Robert Runnels was inducted into the Omaha Press
12 Club Journalism of Excellence Hall of Fame on June 5, 2018; he
13 was the recipient of the Most Influential African American in
14 Lake County, Illinois Lifetime Achievement Award; and

15 WHEREAS, Robert Runnels has been very active in community
16 affairs; he was a board member of the Greater Omaha Girl Scout
17 Council while in Omaha and served on the board of the
18 Mid-Columbia Girl Scout Council in Washington State, earning
19 him a 25-year Girl Scouts pin and certificate; he has served as
20 a Big Brother and a YMCA (Omaha) Camping Committeeman; he was a
21 North Chicago Library Board Trustee from 2009 to 2021; he is a
22 Foundation Board Member of the National Museum of the American
23 Sailor; and

1 WHEREAS, Currently, Robert Runnels is a member of the
2 Veterans of Foreign Wars (Lifetime Member), American Legion
3 Post #397 (North Chicago), Little Fort Elks Lodge #1359 (North
4 Chicago), the PGA Tour Partners Club (Lifetime Member), and
5 the United States Golf Association (USGA); therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
7 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
8 we congratulate Robert "Bob" A. Runnels Sr. on his retirement
9 from serving as alderman of the 6th ward of the City of North
10 Chicago; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
12 presented to Robert Runnels as a symbol of our esteem and
13 respect.