



HR0332

LRB102 18560 LAW 26832 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to congratulate Fayette County on the
4 occasion of its 200th anniversary; and

5 WHEREAS, Fayette County was established from Bond, Wayne,
6 Clark, Crawford and Jefferson counties on February 14, 1821,
7 becoming Illinois' 18th county; it was named in honor of Marie
8 Joseph Paul Yves Roch Gilbert du Motier, the Marquis de
9 Lafayette, the famous French general who fought for the
10 colonies in the Revolutionary War; it was formed as necessary
11 for Vandalia, having been selected as the second capital of
12 the State, to be located within a county with suitable
13 dimensions; and

14 WHEREAS, Vandalia was the home to three of the State's
15 capitol buildings from 1819 to 1839, including the Vandalia
16 State House, which was built in 1836 and was the fourth capitol
17 building of Illinois; and

18 WHEREAS, Abraham Lincoln, elected from Sangamon County,
19 arrived in Vandalia to take his seat in the legislature on
20 November 29, 1834, where he first formulated his thoughts on
21 slavery and served until the capitol moved to Springfield in
22 March 1839; and

1 WHEREAS, The National Road, proposed by Thomas Jefferson
2 in 1803 and authorized by Congress in 1806, began in
3 Cumberland, Maryland in 1811 and ended in Vandalia in 1837; it
4 served as an important escape route for slaves seeking freedom
5 through the Underground Railroad, with 24 stations located
6 across Fayette, Greene, Washington, and Westmoreland counties
7 serving as stops along the way; and

8 WHEREAS, The 705.5-mile Illinois Central Railroad was
9 joined by a golden spike one mile south of Ramsey on January 5,
10 1855, officially opening the then-longest railroad in the
11 world; and

12 WHEREAS, Fayette County was home to three men, all
13 Democrats, who attained political heights in Illinois
14 government; of the three, two had deep family roots in the
15 county; William M. Farmer, born near Shobonier, was elected to
16 the House of Representatives in 1891 and named to the Illinois
17 Supreme Court in 1906, where he served on the bench for 25
18 years; Arthur Roe, born in Shafter, was elected to the House of
19 Representatives in 1913 and served as Speaker of the House
20 from 1933 to 1935; Don E. Brummet, having moved to Vandalia in
21 1939, was elected to four terms in the House of
22 Representatives from 1971 to 1979; and

1 WHEREAS, Fayette County is the final resting place of 12
2 veterans of the American Revolution, James Starrett Carson,
3 James Cheshier, Samuel Davis, Henry Ginger, Wooten Harris,
4 Benjamin Jones, Thomas Mahon, Isaac Martin, John Morrell,
5 Benjamin Todd, James Verden, and Henry Walker, and their
6 heroic service created a nation; and

7 WHEREAS, Fayette County is the only county in the State
8 whose courthouse was once a private residence; and

9 WHEREAS, Fayette County is home to four locations listed
10 on the National Registry of Historic Places; the Floyd and
11 Glenora Dycus House, located at 305 S. Second Street in
12 Brownstown, was listed on March 2, 2001; the First
13 Presbyterian Church, located at 301 W. Main Street in
14 Vandalia, was listed on March 24, 1982; the Little Brick
15 House, located at 621 St. Clair Street in Vandalia, was listed
16 on June 4, 1973; the Historic Vandalia Statehouse, located at
17 315 W. Gallatin in Vandalia, was listed on January 21, 1974;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, Fayette County is divided into 20 townships,
20 which are Avena, Bear Grove, Bowling Green, Carson, Kaskaskia,
21 LaClede, Lone Grove, Loudon, North Hurricane, Otego, Pope,
22 Ramsey, Sefton, Seminary, Shafter, Sharon, South Hurricane,
23 Vandalia, Wheatland, and Wilberton; it is home to the cities

1 of St. Elmo and Vandalia; it includes the villages of Bingham,
2 Brownstown, Farina, Ramsey, and St. Peter; it also includes
3 the unincorporated communities of Augsburg, Avena, Bayle City,
4 Bluff City, Confidence, Dressor, Hagarstown, Loogootee,
5 Pittsburg, Shafter, Shobonier, Saint Paul, and Vera; and

6 WHEREAS, Fayette County will celebrate its 200th
7 anniversary at the Bicentennial Open House hosted by the
8 Fayette County Genealogical and Historical Society at the
9 Fayette County Museum on June 12, 2021; 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 congratulate the County of Fayette on the occasion of its
13 200th year; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
15 presented to the Fayette County Genealogical and Historical
16 Society as an expression of our esteem and respect.