



HR0457

LRB102 20096 MST 28946 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 Bonnie
4 Noble of Peoria, who passed away on September 9, 2021; and

5 WHEREAS, Bonnie Noble was born to Robert and Laura West in
6 River Forest on August 11, 1941; she attended Oak Park River
7 Forest High School; she graduated from the University of
8 Illinois at Urbana-Champaign with a Bachelor of Science in
9 Recreation and Park Administration; she married the love of
10 her life, Kent Noble, in River Forest on April 25, 1964; in
11 1968, she and her husband moved to Peoria and had three
12 daughters, Cindy, Kristen, and Jamie; and

13 WHEREAS, In 1973, Bonnie Noble was the first woman elected
14 as a trustee of the Peoria Park District; over the next 43
15 years, she would continue to preside in a leadership capacity
16 for the park district; she served 19 years as a trustee and
17 board president and 24 years as the executive director; during
18 her tenure as executive director, the Peoria Park District
19 received the 1994, 2001, and 2010 National Gold Medal Awards
20 for excellence in park and recreation management and
21 accreditation as one of the first Illinois Distinguished Park
22 Districts; in 2004, she was inducted as a fellow into the
23 American Academy for Parks and Recreation, a national group

1 limited to 125 practicing professionals; and

2 WHEREAS, Bonnie Noble's major accomplishments as executive
3 director were partnering with OSF Saint Francis Medical Center
4 to build the downtown RiverPlex Recreation and Wellness
5 Center, the development and completion of the Rock Island
6 Trail in 2013, including the Knoxville Avenue bridge, leading
7 efforts to establish the Peoria Playhouse Children's Museum,
8 and tripling the size of the Peoria Zoo by leading a capital
9 campaign in 2009; the Peoria Park District Board of Trustees
10 honored her "total commitment and dedication to the citizens
11 and employees of the Peoria Park District" by naming their new
12 administration offices the Bonnie W. Noble Center for Park
13 District Administration in 2013; and

14 WHEREAS, After her retirement in April of 2016, Bonnie
15 Noble received the Joseph Bannon Practitioner Award, the
16 Jaycees Good Government Award, the Peoria Area Chamber of
17 Commerce Athena Award, and the Ray A. Neumann Tri-County
18 Citizen of the Year Award, among others; she was also the
19 recipient of the Charles K. Brightbill Distinguished Alumni
20 Award, awarded annually by the Department of Recreation, Sport
21 and Tourism at the University of Illinois; and

22 WHEREAS, Bonnie Noble's greatest accomplishment was the
23 positive impact the Peoria Park District has had on hundreds

1 of thousands of people, the people she worked with every day
2 and the families and individuals that have enjoyed the
3 beautiful parks, golf courses, and facilities throughout
4 Peoria; and

5 WHEREAS, Bonnie Noble is survived by her husband of 57
6 years, Kent Noble; their daughters, Cindy (Shannon) Noble,
7 Kristen (Darin) LaHood, and Jamie (Dan) Hogan; her five
8 cherished grandsons, McKay, Lucas, and Theodore LaHood and
9 Maxwell and Thatcher Hogan; and her brother, Robert C. (David)
10 West; therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
12 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
13 we mourn the passing of Bonnie Noble and extend our sincere
14 condolences to her family, friends, and all who knew and loved
15 her; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
17 presented to the family of Bonnie Noble as an expression of our
18 deepest sympathy and in gratitude for her service to her
19 county and community.