



HR0844

LRB102 27369 LAW 39158 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 Bob  
4 Chinn, who passed away in April 2022; and

5           WHEREAS, Bob Chinn was born to Wai and Yung Shee Ong Chinn  
6 in Duluth, Minnesota on March 2, 1923; as a young boy, he moved  
7 to Chicago during the Great Depression, where his family owned  
8 the Uptown restaurant New Wilson Village; he left high school  
9 and joined the U.S. Army during World War II, where he served  
10 as part of the 46th Field Artillery Battalion outside of  
11 Belfast, Northern Ireland for three years; and

12           WHEREAS, Bob Chinn was an American restaurateur; his first  
13 job was delivering food on foot for another restaurant at the  
14 age of 14; after the war, he started a number of his own  
15 businesses in the restaurant industry; his first business was  
16 supplying patterned plates to Chinese restaurants; from there,  
17 he then began selling equipment, remodeling, and eventually  
18 helping his family members open restaurants; he and his  
19 daughter, Marilyn, began traveling around the country in 1978,  
20 conducting research for the Midwestern seafood restaurant he  
21 had envisioned for some time; and

22           WHEREAS, Bob Chinn and his daughter negotiated the

1 purchase of a shuttered building on Milwaukee Avenue in  
2 Wheeling after years of planning and development, where, two  
3 days before Christmas in 1982, he opened Bob Chinn's Crab  
4 House, his 14th and most successful restaurant; over the  
5 years, his restaurant has expanded and grown from 250 seats to  
6 700 seats, serving on average 2,500 meals a day with a  
7 300-strong staff; his restaurant was named the top grossing  
8 restaurant in America by Forbes magazine in August 2012 with  
9 an estimated \$24 million in annual revenue; and

10 WHEREAS, Bob Chinn was known for his brassy, gregarious,  
11 and outsized personality; he enjoyed watching baseball games,  
12 horse racing, films, and live theater and was a voracious  
13 reader; and

14 WHEREAS, Bob Chinn was preceded in death by his wife of 62  
15 years, Jean Chinn, and his daughter, Barbara Chinn; and

16 WHEREAS, Bob Chinn is survived by his brother, Howard  
17 Chinn; his daughter, Marilyn Chinn LeTourneau; his son,  
18 Michael Chinn; his seven grandchildren; and his 10  
19 great-grandchildren; therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
21 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
22 we mourn the passing of Bob Chinn and extend our sincere

1       condolences to his family, friends, and all who knew and loved  
2       him; and be it further

3               RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
4       presented to the family of Bob Chinn as an expression of our  
5       deepest sympathy.