



HR0844

LRB102 27369 LAW 39158 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Bob Chinn, who passed away in April 2022; and

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

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

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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.