



HR0902

LRB102 28447 LAW 40319 r

1

HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to congratulate Richard J. Mark on the
4 occasion of his retirement as president of Ameren Illinois
5 Companies; and

6 WHEREAS, Richard Mark is the son of Joseph and Cleola
7 Mark; he is a native of Collinsville and graduated from
8 Collinsville High School; he attended Iowa State University
9 from 1973 to 1977, where he played defensive back for the
10 Cyclones under Coach Earle Bruce and earned his bachelor's
11 degree in Early Childhood Education; and

12 WHEREAS, Richard Mark has led a non-traditional career,
13 initially working in education and coaching football; he then
14 worked for a police department, a county government, and a
15 political campaign before working in hospital administration
16 for 11 years, including six years as president and chief
17 executive officer of St. Mary's Hospital in East St. Louis and
18 five years as chief operating officer; during this time, he
19 also led the East St. Louis District 189 Financial Oversight
20 Panel, helping the district reemerge with \$20 million in
21 reserves 10 years after it had initially faced \$4 million in
22 debt; and

1 WHEREAS, Richard Mark has served the Ameren Corporation
2 for the past 20 years, leading Ameren Illinois as president
3 since 2012; under his direction, Ameren Illinois has
4 undertaken a transformative overhaul of the Illinois electric
5 grid and natural gas infrastructure, installing advanced
6 technologies, improving reliability, reducing outages, and
7 creating thousands of jobs in communities throughout central
8 and southern Illinois; his focus on customer satisfaction
9 further earned Ameren Illinois a top-tier ranking among
10 Midwest Large Utilities by JD Power; additionally, he has been
11 credited with increasing Ameren Illinois' corporate
12 philanthropy efforts and focusing on building stronger local
13 communities, directing more than \$22 million in donations to
14 downstate Illinois non-profits and service organizations; he
15 has also served as a champion of diversity, opening doors for
16 more minorities to grow into leadership positions in Ameren
17 Illinois; and

18 WHEREAS, Richard Mark has served on multiple boards of
19 directors, including the American Gas Association, the Tenet
20 Healthcare Corporation, the Madison Mutual Insurance Company,
21 the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Foundation, and
22 Fontbonne University; he is also chairman of the Leadership
23 Council of Southwestern Illinois and founding director of the
24 Illinois Utilities Business Diversity Council; and

1 WHEREAS, Richard Mark has been recognized locally and
2 nationally for his leadership numerous times, including being
3 named one the Top 10 National Business Leaders by
4 African-American Career World magazine in 2015, receiving the
5 Illinois Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus' Appreciation Award in
6 2016, and being named the EMpower 100 Ethnic Minority Leader
7 in 2017; he has also received three honorary doctoral degrees
8 for his civic and community work; and

9 WHEREAS, Richard Mark is the husband of Missy Mark and the
10 father of Fontez Mark, Joseph Mark, and Megan Gardner; and

11 WHEREAS, Richard Mark will retire on August 1, 2022; his
12 legacy of hard work, commitment to customers, visionary
13 thinking, serving as a voice for Downstate Illinois on
14 utility-related legislation, and philanthropy will continue at
15 Ameren Illinois; therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
17 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
18 we congratulate Richard J. Mark on his retirement from the
19 Ameren Illinois Companies and wish him continued success in
20 his future endeavors; and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
22 presented to Richard Mark as an expression of our esteem and

HR0902

-4-

LRB102 28447 LAW 40319 r

1 respect.