



HR0994

LRB102 29471 LAW 41474 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives wish to recognize Preston G. Smith on his 50  
4 years of service to the citizens of East Central Illinois as a  
5 community banker; and

6           WHEREAS, Preston Smith began his community banking career  
7 in 1972, serving as assistant vice president at First National  
8 Bank in Greenville; he later joined Central National Banks of  
9 Mattoon in 1979; and

10           WHEREAS, Preston Smith purchased, along with a group of  
11 community-minded investors, The First National Bank of  
12 Mulberry Grove in Mulberry Grove in 1989, serving as president  
13 and chairman of the board of directors; and

14           WHEREAS, Preston Smith significantly helped develop The  
15 First National Bank of Mulberry Grove when the announcement  
16 was made to open a banking center in Mattoon in 1998, with the  
17 bank's name being shortened to The First National Bank; and

18           WHEREAS, Preston Smith led The First National Bank's  
19 significant growth and investment in the community and began  
20 construction on a new facility in Mattoon to better serve East  
21 Central Illinois, opening The First National Bank Wealth

1 Management and Broadway Banking Center in 2017; and

2 WHEREAS, Preston Smith remained president and chairman of  
3 the board until the bank was sold to Washington Savings Bank in  
4 Effingham in August 2021, and he continues to serve as a  
5 consultant; and

6 WHEREAS, Preston Smith has been actively involved in his  
7 community and has served on many boards of directors,  
8 including the Mattoon Area Family YMCA, the Mattoon Chamber of  
9 Commerce, and Lakeland Community College; he is also a member  
10 of numerous civic groups; and

11 WHEREAS, Preston Smith served as a member of the Federal  
12 Delegate Board for the Independent Community Bankers of  
13 America (ICBA) from 2010 to 2016; and

14 WHEREAS, Preston Smith has been an active member of the  
15 Community Bankers Association of Illinois (CBAI), serving as  
16 chairman of the board from 2004 to 2005; he is dedicated to  
17 CBAI's mission of keeping community banks competitive for the  
18 benefit of their customers and the communities they serve  
19 through delivery of quality education, effective  
20 representation, and essential products and services;  
21 therefore, be it

1           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
2 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
3 we recognize Preston G. Smith on his 50 years in community  
4 banking and wish him many more wonderful years; and be it  
5 further

6           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
7 presented to Preston Smith as an expression of our esteem and  
8 respect.