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HOUSE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives wish to thank State Representative Mark Batinick for his service and dedication to the 97th House District; and

WHEREAS, Rep. Batinick has served the 97th District in the Illinois House of Representatives since 2015 after he replaced former House Republican Leader Tom Cross; and

WHEREAS, Rep. Batinick earned his Bachelor of Science in Business Education from the University of Illinois in 1992; and

WHEREAS, Acting on his entrepreneurial spirit, Rep. Batinick started his own business, pursuing the American dream of being a small business owner; he also works as a commercial real estate broker and is the owner of a home services company, serving mostly fellow small business owners; and

WHEREAS, After personally witnessing the many hardships that businesses and taxpayers had to endure in Illinois, too often inflicted by the State itself, Rep. Batinick joined the House of Representatives; he believed bipartisan solutions could be provided by setting aside politics to accomplish what

1 some would consider the impossible; and

2 WHEREAS, Rep. Batinick's first order of business as a
3 state representative was refusing to accept his lucrative
4 legislative pension to show his personal commitment to pension
5 reform in Illinois; and

6 WHEREAS, In Springfield, Rep. Batinick demonstrated his
7 commitment to bipartisan problem-solving and generating ideas
8 for the State, including an Ideas for Illinois website in
9 2015, a 1-2-3 Budget Solution in 2017, a Rubik's Cube approach
10 to address state problems, a One for All and Two for One budget
11 re-regulation plan, and a Common Sense Approach to the Energy
12 Debate; and

13 WHEREAS, Rep. Batinick continued to generate bipartisan
14 conversations to turn ideas into action through his Policy
15 Nuance radio town hall series, an open letter to Governor JB
16 Pritzker to move Illinois past COVID-19 in 2021, the Batinick
17 Blueprint in 2022, legislation to cap the gas sales tax, and
18 the Batinick Plan for Pension Reform as a Foundation for
19 Property Tax Relief; and

20 WHEREAS, Rep. Batinick saw many of his bipartisan bills
21 become law over the years, including the Heroes Way
22 Designation Program Act, an extension of his successful

1 Batinick Buyout program, the creation of the Private First
2 Class Andrew Meari Memorial Highway, legislation for earlier
3 school zone speed limits, and ethics reform legislation for
4 pension boards; and

5 WHEREAS, Rep. Batinick was a strong voice in the General
6 Assembly for basic ethics reform to restore trust in
7 Springfield that Illinoisans desperately need; he helped
8 launch the Reimagine Illinois pillar for Ending the Culture of
9 Corruption in 2021, was the first sitting lawmaker to call for
10 the resignation of then-Speaker Michael Madigan in 2019,
11 called recent ethics reforms attempts in the General Assembly
12 a Potemkin village, pushed for retroactive term limits, and
13 introduced recall constitutional amendments to hold public
14 officials accountable; and

15 WHEREAS, Rep. Batinick was also a champion for women and
16 girls, including voting against the 2019 Reproductive Health
17 Act because he believed it was detrimental to the health of
18 women, co-sponsoring legislation that became law to require
19 hotels and casinos to adopt anti-sexual harassment policies to
20 improve workplace safety for employees, supporting the
21 Licensed Certified Professional Midwife Practice Act, hosting
22 a diaper and baby wipe drive for a local pregnancy resource
23 center, supporting legislation to combat human trafficking in
24 Illinois, and working tirelessly to speak out against the 2021

1 repeal of the Parental Notice of Abortion Act and citing its
2 importance in protecting girls who have been abused; and

3 WHEREAS, During the COVID-19 pandemic, Rep. Batinick's
4 office immediately got to work to help the 97th District's
5 communities and seniors, including launching an incredibly
6 successful Helping Hands program, holding the Let's Face It
7 campaign to motivate local stores and restaurants to require
8 employees to wear face coverings in April 2020, hosting blood
9 drives, helping local food collections, and consistently
10 requesting the Governor approach the pandemic with a holistic
11 approach and the advice of all experts; and

12 WHEREAS, Rep. Batinick further aided the 97th District by
13 hosting "Batinick Baldies" for childhood cancer research,
14 promoting eating at local restaurants during the COVID-19
15 pandemic lockdowns, and hosting an art contest to celebrate
16 the legendary 97th District's intersection of Route 66 and the
17 Lincoln Highway in Plainfield; and

18 WHEREAS, Rep. Batinick was named House Republican Floor
19 Leader and House Republican Spokesperson for the Personnel &
20 Pensions Committee in 2019, serving in those roles through the
21 101st and 102nd General Assemblies; and

22 WHEREAS, Rep. Batinick served the 97th District

1 communities of Oswego, Montgomery, Naperville, Plainfield,
2 Bolingbrook, Joliet, and Shorewood dutifully for eight years;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Rep. Batinick worked across the aisle to get good
5 legislation passed for every community in Illinois, embodying
6 the sentiment that motivated President Ronald Reagan, "There
7 is no limit to what a man can do...if he doesn't mind who gets
8 the credit"; therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
10 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
11 we wish to thank Representative Mark Batinick for his years of
12 thoughtful, committed, and pragmatic leadership in the
13 Illinois House of Representatives and his service to the 97th
14 District; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
16 presented to Rep. Batinick as an expression of our esteem and
17 respect.