



HJ0031 Engrossed

LRB103 32044 MST 60960 r

1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 31

2 WHEREAS, Donald E. Stephens was born in Chicago on March  
3 13, 1928; and

4 WHEREAS, Donald E. Stephens was the first village  
5 president (mayor) of Rosemont; he was first elected in 1956  
6 and re-elected in every subsequent election until his death on  
7 April 18, 2007; and

8 WHEREAS, Prior to the village of Rosemont's incorporation,  
9 Donald E. Stephens was the president of the homeowner's  
10 association of the neighborhood that later became Rosemont;  
11 and

12 WHEREAS, Donald E. Stephens was believed to be the  
13 longest-serving mayor in the United States at the time of his  
14 passing; and

15 WHEREAS, During Donald E. Stephens' tenure as mayor, the  
16 village of Rosemont grew from a community of only 85 people to  
17 become one of Illinois' most influential communities with over  
18 4,000 residents as well as the nation's tenth-largest  
19 convention center, properly named the Donald E. Stephens  
20 Convention and Conference Center; and

1           WHEREAS, Donald E. Stephens oversaw the construction of  
2 the 18,500 seat Allstate Arena and the Rosemont Theatre; and

3           WHEREAS, Donald E. Stephens was an avid collector of  
4 Hummel figurines and established a museum holding his  
5 collection in Rosemont; the Donald E. Stephens Museum of  
6 Hummels claims to be the largest public display of Hummel  
7 figurines in the world; therefore, be it

8           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
9 HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE  
10 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that we designate the Balmoral  
11 Avenue Bridge over Interstate 294 as the "Donald E. Stephens  
12 Memorial Bridge"; and be it further

13           RESOLVED, That the Illinois Toll Highway Authority is  
14 requested to erect at suitable locations, consistent with  
15 State and federal regulations, appropriate plaques or signs  
16 giving notice of the name "Donald E. Stephens Memorial  
17 Bridge"; and be it further

18           RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be  
19 presented to the family of Donald E. Stephens and the  
20 Executive Director of the Illinois Toll Highway Authority.