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HOUSE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives wish to congratulate Executive Director Richard White on the occasion of successfully overseeing the transition of the Illinois Police Officers' Pension Investment Fund (IPOPIF); and

WHEREAS, Richard White has spent over 40 years in public service as a sworn law enforcement officer, serving and protecting citizens, businesses, and property with dignity and honor; and

WHEREAS, During his career, Richard White also served as a trustee for the Orange County Employees Retirement System (OCERS) in California for nine years, where he managed an administrative budget of 11 million dollars and a pension fund of 10 billion dollars; and

WHEREAS, Richard White then served as the president of the State Association of County Retirement Systems (SACRS), representing over half a million participants and beneficiaries throughout the State of California with the combined assets of 110 billion dollars; and

WHEREAS, After retiring from law enforcement, Richard

1 White served as the administrator for the Mendocino County
2 Employees Retirement Association (MCERA) in California, where
3 he managed a pension fund with a budget of \$800,000 and \$440
4 million in assets; he retired from public service in
5 California in 2014; and

6 WHEREAS, In June of 2020, Richard White returned to public
7 service and was hired as the executive director of the
8 Illinois Police Officers' Pension Investment Fund (IPOPIF) to
9 oversee the development of the newly created consolidation of
10 357 different pension funds; and

11 WHEREAS, Richard White prepared a strategic plan to bring
12 the consolidated funds together, writing policies and
13 procedures and developing requests for proposal (RFPs) for all
14 facets of the pension fund, including investments, legal
15 requirements, and administrative positions that would be
16 needed; and

17 WHEREAS, Richard White spoke with various service
18 providers and sought expertise to develop a team to bring the
19 assets under management; he educated the IPOPIF Board of
20 Directors on hiring staff and the development of the systems
21 needed for this undertaking; he also located and created an
22 office space for the future of the fund; and

1 WHEREAS, Richard White worked with other government
2 entities, speaking with legislators, union officials, and
3 pension boards across the State in an effort to garner trust,
4 faith, and the cooperation of all parties; and

5 WHEREAS, Richard White traveled across Illinois to meet
6 with pension trustees, beneficiaries, and participants to give
7 them full confidence in his abilities to oversee and manage
8 this process, always taking the time to speak at union and
9 pension conferences and to meet with leaders and local boards
10 without hesitation while simultaneously creating this newly
11 consolidated fund; and

12 WHEREAS, Richard White led the IPOPIF Board and his team
13 through issues related to the COVID-19 pandemic and
14 litigation, ensuring things would be completed and done
15 correctly in the best interest of all parties; his dedication
16 required working many late nights, weekends, and on holidays
17 to meet the legislative deadline; and

18 WHEREAS, Richard White spearheaded the largest pension
19 consolidation in the nation, working with 357 different
20 pension funds and a net value of 9 billion dollars, an
21 undertaking that had never been done to this size and scale;
22 and

1 WHEREAS, Because of his experience, education, and
2 leadership, Richard White was able to lead this endeavor
3 through the most challenging times while maintaining his
4 patience and professionalism and never losing focus of the
5 goals and objectives of the IPOPIF; therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
7 HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
8 we congratulate Executive Director Richard White on
9 successfully overseeing the transition of the Illinois Police
10 Officers' Pension Investment Fund (IPOPIF), and we thank him
11 for his hard work and dedication to this endeavor; and be it
12 further

13 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
14 presented to Richard White as a symbol of our esteem and
15 respect.