



HR0208

LRB103 31884 LAW 60552 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives wish to congratulate the Morris Theatre Guild, Inc. on the occasion of its 50th anniversary; and

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WHEREAS, The Morris Theatre Guild is a not-for-profit community theater formed in 1973 and organized by volunteers with an interest in the production of live theater in all of its aspects, both onstage and backstage; and

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WHEREAS, The Morris Theatre Guild's first production was the play January Thaw, which was presented in the auditorium of the Morris Community High School; and

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WHEREAS, After performing at various venues in Morris and the surrounding areas for many years, the Morris Theatre Guild purchased the site of the old Free Methodist Church at 507 Liberty Street in Morris in 1987; and

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WHEREAS, The Morris Theatre Guild, after extensive building renovations, presented the play Footlight Frenzy as its first performance in its new location in 1989; and

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WHEREAS, The Morris Theatre Guild's ongoing renovations, completed either by volunteers or financed by donations,

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1 continued up to October 3, 2006, when the building was
2 tragically destroyed by fire; and

3 WHEREAS, The Morris Theatre Guild purchased a condo unit
4 in the newly renovated Coleman building at the west end of
5 Illinois Avenue in Morris in February 2010, which is now known
6 as the Canalport Community Center; the guild's first show in
7 its new location was the play Hay Fever, which was presented in
8 March 2010; and

9 WHEREAS, Despite two shows being cancelled due to COVID-19
10 in the spring and fall of 2020, the Morris Theatre Guild was
11 able to pay off its building loan during the pandemic; and

12 WHEREAS, The Morris Theatre Guild returned with a winter
13 show in 2021, performing Momologues 2: Off to School, which
14 was offered for viewing both virtually and in person; and

15 WHEREAS, The Morris Theatre Guild continues to plan for
16 the future and to upgrade its current facility; and

17 WHEREAS, For the past 50 years, the Morris Theatre Guild
18 has made the performing arts available to the Morris community
19 while proving the old adage, the show must go on; therefore, be
20 it

1 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
2 HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
3 we congratulate the Morris Theatre Guild, Inc. on its 50th
4 anniversary, and we commend the organization's perseverance
5 and commitment to the performing arts; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That we encourage the Morris Theatre Guild to
7 continue enriching the lives of its community and the State
8 with its dedication to the beauty and wonder that is the
9 theater; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
11 presented to Morris Theatre Guild as an expression of our
12 esteem and respect.