



HR0427

LRB103 34241 ECR 64067 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to commend Orphans of the Storm Animal
4 Shelter on playing a pivotal role in the welfare and
5 well-being of stray and abandoned animals in Illinois for 95
6 years; and

7 WHEREAS, In 1928, Orphans of the Storm was founded by
8 world-renowned dancer, actor, and entrepreneur Irene Castle
9 and her friend Helen Swift; the shelter's name, chosen by
10 Irene Castle, was inspired by her love of the similarly named
11 1921 silent film; and

12 WHEREAS, Orphans of the Storm was established under Irene
13 Castle's vision of providing a happy ending to countless lost
14 and abandoned dogs and cats in the Chicago area, and her
15 dedication to this noble cause contributed to the shelter's
16 enduring legacy of compassion and care; and

17 WHEREAS, After Irene Castle's passing in 1969, Orphans of
18 the Storm's mission continued under Thelma Zwirner, whose
19 leadership led to significant growth and expansion, making the
20 shelter one of the largest and most impactful animal shelters
21 in the country; and

1 WHEREAS, Orphans of the Storm was then guided by Richard
2 Zwirner, following in his mother Thelma's footsteps, and he
3 continued the shelter's commitment to providing refuge,
4 medical care, and loving homes for countless orphaned,
5 abandoned, abused, and neglected cats and dogs; and

6 WHEREAS, Orphans of the Storm has continued under the
7 guidance of Volunteer President Donna Heggie, and she has
8 overseen the lifesaving work that Irene Castle began 95 years
9 ago and ensured that the shelter remains a beacon of hope for
10 animals in need; and

11 WHEREAS, Thanks to unwavering community support near and
12 far, Orphans of the Storm has found loving homes for nearly
13 150,000 dogs and cats since opening its doors 95 years ago;
14 therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
16 HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
17 we commend the Orphans of the Storm Animal Shelter on its
18 decades of work in saving the lives of countless orphaned,
19 abandoned, abused, and neglected cats and dogs, and we wish
20 the shelter continued success in its endeavors; and be it
21 further

22 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be

1 presented to the Orphans of the Storm as a symbol of our esteem
2 and respect.