



HR0542

LRB103 36542 MST 66649 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are pleased to congratulate Ann Kovalick of
4 Yorkville on the occasion of her 100th birthday; and

5 WHEREAS, Ann Kovalick was born in Hazelton, Pennsylvania
6 on February 1, 1924; her father drove delivery wagons and
7 worked in coal mines; her mother was a homemaker; at the time,
8 they had no car, television, telephone, or indoor plumbing;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, Ann Kovalick graduated from Hazelton High School
11 in 1942 and went to work in the Craft Factory making men's
12 shirts; she worked there throughout World War II; after the
13 war, she loved going dancing at big band and swing band
14 concerts; eventually, she waved at a guy named Joe, and they
15 subsequently married and moved to Illinois in 1947; they lived
16 in Aurora for a time, but later they moved to a farm in
17 Bristol; and

18 WHEREAS, Ann Kovalick and her husband raised dairy cattle
19 and farmed acres of corn and beans; later, they moved to Sugar
20 Grove to another farm; she helped with everything on the farm
21 and raised her three children, Barbara, Joe, and Ann; she also
22 raised prize-winning pigs and had innumerable pets, including

1 dogs, cats, birds, foxes, and racoons; she also had several
2 dachshunds; and

3 WHEREAS, Ann Kovalick's parents later moved to Illinois,
4 where they lived in an apartment on her farm; her dad worked at
5 a factory in Aurora until he retired; they were well taken care
6 of by the family until they passed; and

7 WHEREAS, Ann Kovalick never learned how to drive; she
8 relied on friends and family to take her places; she was a good
9 cook and a wonderful baker; her pies won many ribbons at local
10 fairs; everyone who visited was welcome at her table to enjoy
11 some of her homemade goodies; and

12 WHEREAS, Ann Kovalick and her husband were very active
13 with the American Legion; they helped cook at legion
14 functions; her husband served in several offices, and she was
15 in the auxiliary; their youngest daughter was involved in all
16 of the parades dressed in red, white, and blue; and

17 WHEREAS, Ann Kovalick's husband worked for seed companies,
18 and they were able to do a lot of traveling with the dealers;
19 cruises were their favorite; they also toured Hawaii, and her
20 favorite story from that trip was about the time she was
21 leaving a pineapple plantation and her husband took off in the
22 car without her; she also loved Las Vegas and playing the slot

1 machines; she visited Deadwood, South Dakota with her
2 daughters and attended a motorcycle rally in Sturgis; and

3 WHEREAS, Ben's Giant Pumpkins was formed on Ann Kovalick's
4 farm, and for many years, acres of pumpkins, squash, and
5 Indian corn were grown; she sold pick your own pumpkins for the
6 month of October and had many customers from all over the area;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, Ann Kovalick's husband, Joe, passed away in 2007
9 during October; his loss is still felt, and her son now carries
10 on the farming; and

11 WHEREAS, Ann Kovalick's son lives on and runs the family
12 farm; one of her daughters lives in Missouri, and the other
13 daughter now resides in Texas; she is a proud grandmother of
14 five and a great-grandmother of 10; and

15 WHEREAS, Ann Kovalick's worst enemy was arthritis; the old
16 farm house with many stairs became too difficult for her to
17 manage, so she now resides at Heritage Woods Assisted Living
18 Center in Yorkville, where she is taken care of and has many
19 friends; her family visits her and lights up her day; she now
20 drives, but in a wheelchair, so everyone needs to look out; she
21 is called an energizer bunny because she just keeps going;
22 therefore, be 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 Ann Kovalick on this historic occasion and
4 wish her the best 100th birthday celebration; and be it
5 further

6 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
7 presented to Ann Kovalick as a symbol of our respect and
8 esteem.