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HOUSE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives wish to congratulate Kidder Music Service, Inc. on the occasion of its 50th anniversary; and

WHEREAS, Over the past five decades, the Kidder name has become synonymous with music for all ages in Peoria and Central Illinois; and

WHEREAS, Kidder Music Service, Inc. was founded by Jim and Floride "Ede" Kidder, a couple who brought their strong individual backgrounds and talents to the business, with Jim having a degree in music education from Illinois Wesleyan University and experience as a band director and in retail music sales, and Ede possessing bachelor's and master's degrees in Spanish and English from the University of Illinois and musical abilities on piano, organ, and saxophone; and

WHEREAS, Kidder Music Service, Inc. was originally part of an existing music company located in the Byerly Building at 222 Southwest Adams Street when the Kidders purchased it in 1974, and it came with inventory purchased from the previous owner, a repair shop, two road salesmen, and a secretary; despite numerous logistical challenges with the location, the company remained in the Byerly Building for six years; and

1 WHEREAS, Kidder Music Service Inc. moved after Jim and Ede
2 Kidder purchased property on Crestline Drive adjacent to the
3 Pioneer Park Industrial development in 1980; the company's new
4 location provided easier customer service and access to
5 convenient parking, helping it steadily grow while providing
6 band, orchestra, and choral sheet music as well as
7 instruments, accessories, repairs, and music clinics to
8 clients; and

9 WHEREAS, Kidder Music Service, Inc. moved again into the
10 former Continental Forms facility at 7728 North Crestline
11 Drive in 1995, which included a large warehouse and needed
12 extensive renovations; the business expanded after the Bard
13 Optical building next door became available, and the
14 subsequent redesign included constructing a waiting room,
15 small studios for private lessons, and a large room for
16 hosting group lessons or music camps; and

17 WHEREAS, Kidder Music Service, Inc. is now led by Jim and
18 Ede Kidder's daughter, Beth Houlihan, who became president in
19 2014, having spent many hours after school helping her parents
20 at the music store and after earning a degree in music business
21 from Bradley University; and

22 WHEREAS, Kidder Music Service, Inc.'s Joe Kidder has

1 credited the company's 50 years of success to wonderful,
2 dedicated employees and the creative people in the arts
3 community who frequent the business; therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
5 HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
6 we congratulate Kidder Music Service, Inc. on its 50 years of
7 business, and we wish the business continued success; and be
8 it further

9 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
10 presented to the Jim and Floride "Ede" Kidder and their
11 children, Beth Houlihan and Matt Kidder, as an expression of
12 our esteem and respect.