



SR0563

LRB103 34936 LAW 64817 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate wish to congratulate Richard L. Guebert Jr. on the occasion of his retirement as president of Illinois Farm Bureau; and

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WHEREAS, Richard Guebert was born and raised on a 120-cow family dairy farm; after returning home from Southern Illinois University, where he earned a bachelor's degree in agriculture education with a minor in animal science, he started his own farming operation with his wife, Nancy; he and his son, Kyle, operate a farm in Ellis Grove, where they raise corn, soybeans, and wheat; and

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WHEREAS, Richard Guebert is the 15th president of Illinois Farm Bureau and serves as a full-time executive officer; he is also president of COUNTRY Financial, the Illinois Agricultural Service Company, and the IAA Foundation; he serves on the Leadership Council and the board of the Illinois Agri-Food Alliance, a statewide initiative to enable Illinois and the Chicago region to become the leading global hub for food and agriculture; and

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WHEREAS, Prior to his election as president in December 2013, Richard Guebert served as vice president of Illinois Farm Bureau (IFB) from 2003 to 2013; as vice president, he also

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1 served as chairman of the COUNTRY/IFB Governance Committee;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, Before Richard Guebert's time with Illinois Farm
4 Bureau, he served as director of the Lower Kaskaskia
5 Stakeholders, Inc. from 1999 to 2004, director of the
6 Kaskaskia Watershed Association from 2000 to 2004, director of
7 Gateway FS from 1990 to 2008, and on the board of directors of
8 the Randolph County Farm Bureau from 1993 to 2003, where he
9 also served as vice president from 1994 to 1996 and president
10 from 1996 to 2003; and

11 WHEREAS, In 2001, Richard Guebert served on the Illinois
12 Farm Bureau Co-op Task Force and completed the Agricultural
13 Leaders of Tomorrow leadership training; and

14 WHEREAS, Richard Guebert was named a Master Farmer by
15 Prairie Farmer magazine in 2006; and

16 WHEREAS, In March 2007, Richard Guebert accompanied
17 then-Director Jack Lavin of the Illinois Department of
18 Commerce and Economic Opportunity and other delegates on a
19 trade mission to India to open a trade office in New Delhi; in
20 June 2007, he traveled to Poland with then-Lt. Governor Pat
21 Quinn on a four-city cultural exchange and trade mission that
22 developed and enhanced the relationship between Illinois and

1 Poland; in March 2009, he was part of the farm and business
2 delegation to Cuba under the direction of the former U.S.
3 Secretary of Agriculture Jack Block; he was appointed by
4 then-Governor Pat Quinn to the Taxpayer Action Board in April
5 2009 and the Governor's Export Advisory Council in 2012; he
6 participated in a trade mission to China with Governor Quinn
7 and several business leaders from across the State in 2011;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Richard Guebert and his wife, Nancy, are parents
10 to their son, Kyle; and

11 WHEREAS, Richard Guebert's leadership and vision during
12 his tenure at Illinois Farm Bureau will leave a lasting impact
13 on agriculture; therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL
15 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we congratulate
16 Richard Guebert Jr. on his retirement, and we thank him for his
17 dedication and commitment to improving the economic well-being
18 of agriculture and enriching the quality of farm family life;
19 and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
21 presented to Richard Guebert as an expression of our esteem
22 and respect.