

## 1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Donald J. Payton has served as a legislative  
3 liaison to the Illinois General Assembly for more than  
4 twenty-four years; and

5 WHEREAS, During these years he represented four state  
6 agencies: the Department of Commerce and Community Affairs  
7 (January 1979 - May 1984), the Department of Public Health  
8 (May 1984 - February 1991), the Department of Alcoholism and  
9 Substance Abuse (February 1991 - January 1995) and the  
10 Illinois State Board of Education (1995 - 2003); and

11 WHEREAS, Don Payton brought to each of these positions  
12 his strong analytic and communication skills, an in-depth  
13 knowledge of many subjects, political understanding, the  
14 ability to think creatively, and a talent for working with  
15 individuals and groups with disparate views to find a  
16 reasonable solution; and

17 WHEREAS, These characteristics made him an articulate and  
18 effective representative for the agencies he represented and  
19 a respected, invaluable resource for the members of the  
20 General Assembly; and

21 WHEREAS, Despite his tireless work schedule, Don Payton  
22 was a role model as the devoted father of five children, a  
23 rabid St. Louis Cardinal fan, an advocate for special  
24 education and the 2002 Outstanding Student in Political  
25 Studies at the University of Illinois at Springfield; and

26 WHEREAS, Donald Payton is now leaving government service  
27 in Illinois to serve a Florida community college as Senior  
28 Legislative Liaison, as well as teach, sharing his insights  
29 into policymaking with the next generation of political  
30 science students; therefore, be it

31 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE

1 NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
2 we do hereby congratulate Donald J. Payton for his many years  
3 of outstanding service to the State of Illinois; and be it  
4 further

5 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
6 presented to Don Payton as a token of our respect and esteem  
7 and with our best wishes for his future endeavors.