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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the House of Representatives of the State of Illinois wish to congratulate Heidi Keye Biederman of St. Charles on the occasion of her retirement as the Executive Director of the Large Unit District Association (LUDA); and

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WHEREAS, Ms. Biederman has been the Executive Director of LUDA since 1989; LUDA supports the 56 largest pre-K-12 school districts in the State who serve more than half of Illinois public school children; her duties entailed representing superintendents and their boards to the Illinois General Assembly, the Illinois State Board of Education, the Illinois Board of Higher Education, and other entities; and

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WHEREAS, During her tenure as Executive Director of LUDA, she has represented LUDA to other organizations and coalitions such as the Small Lobby Group, the State Chamber Education Committee, the School Finance Task Force, the Statewide Middle Level Initiative Committee, and the Education Funding Advisory Board; she formulated and successfully carried out LUDA's legislative program and initiatives including the Urban Education Grant Program and expanded membership substantially; she was responsible for creating the association's in-house and external communications, publications, and informational materials as well as originating the LUDA Net, which is an e-mail system for legislative alerts; she developed and organized association conferences, meetings, and symposiums for board members and significantly increased attendance at these events; she also initiated and participated in coalition efforts such as the Local Government Coalition, the Committee for the Future of Our Children (Executive Committee), and school management groups; and

1 WHEREAS, Prior to her work with LUDA, Ms. Biederman
2 served as Associate Director of Governmental Relations for
3 the Illinois Association of School Boards, as Legislative
4 Coordinator for LEND, and as an elementary school teacher at
5 Emerson School in Elmhurst; and

6 WHEREAS, Ms. Biederman received a Bachelor of Arts degree
7 in Education and Sociology from Beloit College; and

8 WHEREAS, Ms. Biederman has served on several government
9 task forces and as a board member of many organizations; she
10 was chairman of the State Association of Legislative
11 Liaisons/NSBA from 1986 until 1988 and was president of the
12 American Association of University Women, Wheaton-Glen Ellyn
13 Branch from 1973 until 1975; and

14 WHEREAS, Ms. Biederman is a member of several
15 professional organizations including the Metropolitan
16 Planning Council, Voices for Illinois Children, the Chicago
17 Area Public Affairs Group, the Chicago Society of Association
18 Executives, the Illinois State Chamber, the City Club of
19 Chicago, the Taxpayers' Federation of Illinois, Illinois
20 Women in Government, the League of Women Voters, and the
21 American Association of University Women; therefore, be it

22 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
23 NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
24 we congratulate Heidi Keye Biederman on the occasion of her
25 retirement as Executive Director of the Large Unit District
26 Association; and be it further

27 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
28 presented to Ms. Biederman as an expression of our respect
29 and esteem and with our best wishes for a peaceful and
30 relaxing retirement.