



1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the House of Representatives of the  
3 State of Illinois wish to congratulate the Timothy B.  
4 Blackstone Library, 4904 S. Lake Park Avenue, in the Hyde Park  
5 area of Chicago, Illinois, on the occasion of the celebration  
6 of its 100th anniversary, which was celebrated on September 18,  
7 2004; and

8 WHEREAS, The Blackstone Library, the first branch in the  
9 Chicago Public Library system, was opened in 1904 as a tribute  
10 to the late Timothy B. Blackstone by his wife, Isabella; and

11 WHEREAS, For 100 years, the library has been a beacon of  
12 learning in the Hyde Park area; and

13 WHEREAS, Many hundreds of people have made it possible for  
14 the ideas and hopes that first went into the building to come  
15 alive through all these years; and

16 WHEREAS, The library has been one of the architectural  
17 crown jewels of the Hyde Park-Kenwood community, having been  
18 designed by Solon S. Beman as a replica of the 450 B.C. Greek  
19 temple "Erethion" in Athens; and

20 WHEREAS, In 1939, an addition was built to house the  
21 Children's library and a substantial restoration of the entire  
22 building was completed in 1980; and

23 WHEREAS, The 100th anniversary celebration drew current  
24 and former Hyde Park residents, some of whom are distinguished  
25 community leaders, authors, and public servants; and

26 WHEREAS, The Blackstone Library has been a wonderful asset  
27 for the community, and those who grew up using the library have  
28 expressed their heartfelt gratitude; and

1           WHEREAS, One of the participants in the celebration, State  
2 Representative Barbara Flynn Currie, grew up at the Blackstone  
3 Library, as did her children, Stephen and Margaret, and today  
4 her six-year-old granddaughter, Katie, and three-year-old  
5 grandson, Davey, are regulars at the Blackstone Library; and

6           WHEREAS, Addressing the crowd at the celebration, Friends  
7 of Blackstone Library President Dina Weinstein said "there's  
8 something about feeding the mind and imagination and the love  
9 of books that is so universal"; therefore, be it

10           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
11 NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
12 congratulate the Blackstone Library on the occasion of the  
13 celebration of its 100th anniversary; that we extend our  
14 sincere appreciation to the Friends of Blackstone Library for  
15 their interest, generosity and continued support of the  
16 library; and be it further

17           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
18 presented to the Blackstone Library.