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1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

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2 WHEREAS, In a small frame building on South Macoupin Street 3 in Gillespie on November 22, 1905, the first issue of The 4 Gillespie News appeared in print; and

5 WHEREAS, The original firm operated under the name of The 6 Gillespie News Publishing Company, with S.P. Preston serving as 7 editor and publisher; the first issues were a five-column, all 8 home-printed paper until 1906, when new machinery was installed 9 and the paper was enlarged to a six-column sheet; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the years, the publication has changed hands as well as names; today, it is the South County News owned and published by the Dave Ambrose family; and

WHEREAS, Since its inception, the News has led the county of Macoupin in progressive publishing operations, installing the first linotype in the area in 1911, and today being the only publication in the county that is fully designed on computer and transmitted electronically to the press; and

WHEREAS, Since 1996, the paper has been recognized for excellence a total of 53 times by the Southern Illinois Press Association and 38 times by the Illinois Press Association; and

WHEREAS, As a family-owned newspaper, a rarity in the industry, the South County News operates totally independent, which is another rarity; the 100th anniversary of the News was celebrated on November 22, 2005; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we congratulate the staff and owners of the South County News on the occasion of the publication's 100th anniversary; and be it further

- 1 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
- 2 presented to the South County News as an expression of our
- 3 esteem and with best wishes for its continued success.