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HOUSE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives are pleased to recognize Louise Schweinfurth of Olympia Fields on the occasion of her 80th birthday; and

WHEREAS, In 1963 Louise Schweinfurth opened the doors of Good Shepherd Center for Exceptional Children with a class of three students; and

WHEREAS, By 1969 there were forty students, a new bus purchased with 250,000 Betty Crocker labels to transport the young people, and a bigger teaching area donated by the Flossmoor Community Church; and

WHEREAS, Good Shepherd Center was started to accommodate children with disabilities and special needs; Louise Schweinfurth began speaking to the General Assembly in the 1970s about early education of mentally and physically challenged children; after the passage of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act was passed the school began taking children in from birth to three years of age; and

WHEREAS, Louise Schweinfurth also helped to shape Early Intervention, In-Home Respite Care, and Lekotek Services in Illinois; and

1           WHEREAS, Louise Schweinfurth somehow also found the time to  
2 raise her three daughters during the 31 years she ran the  
3 school; today the school provides services, both directly and  
4 indirectly, to over 10,000 families in Cook and Will counties;  
5 therefore, be it

6           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
7 NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
8 congratulate Louise Schweinfurth on her 80th birthday; that we  
9 commend her for achieving a long and fulfilling life, and we  
10 wish her continued happiness and good health in the future; and  
11 be it further

12           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
13 presented to Louise Schweinfurth as a symbol of our esteem.