



HR1191

LRB095 20888 KXB 49771 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of our  
4 former colleague L. Bruce Richmond of Murphysboro, who passed  
5 away on April 13, 2008; and

6           WHEREAS, L. Bruce Richmond was born on October 17, 1920 in  
7 Johnson City; his parents were John and Dottie Richmond; he  
8 married LaCleeta Patterson on January 18, 1940; she passed away  
9 on December 4, 1999; he later married Elizabeth (Rose) Fear;  
10 and

11           WHEREAS, L. Bruce Richmond served in the United States Navy  
12 during World War II, where he served as a ship painter at Pearl  
13 Harbor; his artistic ability led him to learn the trade of  
14 sign-painting while in Hawaii, where he also began painting  
15 portraits; he later settled in Murphysboro with his family,  
16 where he was owner-operator of Artcraft Sign Service for more  
17 than 30 years; and

18           WHEREAS, L. Bruce Richmond was active in politics for most  
19 of his life as an alderman in Murphysboro for many years and as  
20 mayor of Murphysboro in the late 1960s and early 1970s; in  
21 1974, he was elected to the Illinois General Assembly, where he  
22 served as a member of the House of Representatives with

1 distinction until his retirement in 1993; and

2 WHEREAS, As a member of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives, L. Bruce Richmond was the primary sponsor of  
4 the annual appropriations bill for SIU and funding for the  
5 university's projects; he was the original sponsor and  
6 supporter for state funding for the SIU Business Incubator, now  
7 known as the Dunn-Richmond Center; he was also the chief  
8 sponsor of bills obtaining funding for the renovation of Davies  
9 Gym, Touch of Nature, Pulliam Hall and many other projects at  
10 SIU; in addition, he was able to bring funding for many  
11 projects in Southern Illinois as chairman of the Agriculture  
12 Committee and member of Appropriations; and

13 WHEREAS, After retiring, L. Bruce Richmond continued  
14 honing his artistic skills, painting dozens of still life  
15 animals and portraits; he also did walnut relief carving of  
16 birds and animals; in the late 1990s, his artwork was displayed  
17 at an exhibit at the Museum Gallery at SIUC; and

18 WHEREAS, L. Bruce Richmond was an avid golfer and  
19 fisherman; he was an active member of the Elks Club, where he  
20 served as state president in 1963, and was a national ritual  
21 judge and officer for several years afterwards; and

22 WHEREAS, L. Bruce Richmond was preceded in death by his

1 wife, LaCleeta; his son, Randall; his parents; and his two  
2 sisters and three brothers; and

3 WHEREAS, L. Bruce Richmond is survived by his wife,  
4 Elizabeth; his son, Michael, and daughter-in-law, Linda; his  
5 daughter and son-in-law, Susan and Richard Morris; his stepson,  
6 Kevin Fear; his stepdaughter, Mary George; his grandchildren,  
7 Amy Cheatham and Sarah Richmond; his step-granddaughter, Emma;  
8 his great-grandson, Noah Cheatham; and his many nieces and  
9 nephews; and

10 WHEREAS, L. Bruce Richmond will be remembered by all who  
11 knew and loved him for his wisdom, dry wit, and quiet strength;  
12 therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
14 NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
15 mourn, along with his family and friends, the death of our  
16 former colleague L. Bruce Richmond; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
18 presented to the family of L. Bruce Richmond as an expression  
19 of our sympathy.