



HR1660

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The year 2008 marks the 35th anniversary of the
3 Decatur Emanon Club, which was founded in 1973; and

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WHEREAS, 35 years ago, a small group of African-American
5 men from the Decatur area came together to address the need for
6 more African-American professionals in the city in the areas of
7 law, medicine, business, and other fields; and

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WHEREAS, The original members of the Decatur Emanon Club
9 were John Shaw, Charlie Jackson, Jacob Robinson, Horace Walker,
10 Cornelius Diggs, and William Odeneal; the group's first
11 President was Bill Oliver; and

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WHEREAS, Starting with a passion to dedicate themselves to
13 the community, the members of the Emanon Club still work to see
14 the African-American community flourish, while also giving
15 their time and money to the community as a whole; and

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WHEREAS, Today, the club has 21 members; the group gives
17 back to the community by making Christmas food baskets for the
18 needy and volunteering for community events, such as the annual
19 Juneteenth celebration and the Decatur Celebration; and

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WHEREAS, The current members of the Decatur Emanon Club are

1 President Carl Smith, Vice President Ron L. Wilson, Secretary
2 James Billingsley, Treasurer Joe L. Rawls, Chaplain John E.
3 Ross, Jasper Guthrie, Joe J. Fuller, Andrew Holder, William
4 Oliver, Jackie Hayes, Howard Shakespear, Ivery Chambliss,
5 James H. Billingsley, Robert Taylor, Ridley Miller, Greg Wade,
6 Bobby McClain Jr., Jeff West, James B. Johnson, John E. Wilder,
7 and Charles DeBerry; therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
9 NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
10 congratulate the members of the Decatur Emanon Club on the
11 occasion of the group's 35th anniversary and wish them
12 continued success in their future endeavors; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
14 presented to Carl Smith, President of the Decatur Emanon Club,
15 as a symbol of our esteem and respect.