



HR0987

LRB096 21384 GRL 37596 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are pleased to congratulate the members of the
4 Illinois State Association of Free Will Baptists on the
5 occasion of the association's 50th annual meeting; and

6 WHEREAS, Free Will Baptist churches have had a presence in
7 the State of Illinois since well before 1850; most of these
8 churches, however, ceased to be Free Will Baptist after 1911,
9 when the northern line of the denomination merged into the
10 Northern Baptist Convention; only in the south central section
11 of Illinois did a small group of Free Will Baptists maintain
12 their distinct identity; and

13 WHEREAS, After meeting for many years at the Southern
14 Illinois Yearly Conference of Free Will Baptists, the Illinois
15 State Association of Free Will Baptists was formed on August
16 10, 1960 at the Tabernacle campground in Benton; the
17 association then reorganized the State's Free Will Baptist
18 churches into districts, elected a slate of officers, and
19 adopted a constitution and a set of by-laws; the association
20 held its first annual session at the Tabernacle campground in
21 Benton on June 23-24, 1961; and

22 WHEREAS, Today, the Illinois State Association of Free Will

1 Baptists consists of 40 churches and has numerous boards to
2 assist its membership with educational, humanitarian, and
3 religious work; and

4 WHEREAS, The current officers of the Illinois State
5 Association of Free Will Baptists are Dr. David L. Burgess,
6 moderator; Rev. David Womack, assistant moderator; Rev. Larry
7 Cook, clerk; Rev. Harlan Jackson, assistant clerk; Mr. Tim
8 Hayes, treasurer; and Rev. David Shores, promotional secretary
9 and member of the General Board of the National Association of
10 Free Will Baptists; therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
12 NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
13 congratulate the members of the Illinois State Association of
14 Free Will Baptists on the occasion of the association's 50th
15 annual meeting and wish them continued success and happiness in
16 the future; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
18 presented to the Executive Board of the Illinois State
19 Association of Free Will Baptists as a symbol of our esteem and
20 respect.