



HR1421

LRB096 23838 KXB 43225 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives are pleased to congratulate the Sumner Masonic Lodge #334 on the occasion of its Sesquicentennial anniversary; and

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WHEREAS, The Sumner Masonic Lodge #334 was chartered as a lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons by the Grand Lodge of Illinois in October of 1860; and

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WHEREAS, The mission of Freemasonry aims to promote Friendship, Morality, and Brotherly Love among its members; it is, by definition, a fraternity comprised of men from every race, religion, opinion, and background who are brought together as Brothers to develop and strengthen the bonds of friendship; and

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WHEREAS, The Sumner Masonic Lodge has a long standing tradition of serving their community through various acts of beneficence; they continue this tradition through a network of charitable programs with a primary focus on promoting education, reducing substance abuse, and aiding children and senior citizens; and

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WHEREAS, The Grand Lodge of Illinois comprises nearly 600

1 lodges and over 70,000 Masons, of which the Sumner Lodge has
2 the youngest average age per membership; and

3 WHEREAS, As part of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, Sumner
4 Lodge joins in providing the sole financial support for two
5 Illinois Masonic Children's Homes that have been in existence
6 for over 120 years; the Children's Home provides a safe and
7 nurturing environment for children ages 4 through 16 years who
8 are unable to care for themselves due to various family or home
9 conditions; and

10 WHEREAS, The Illinois CHIP program, sponsored by the Grand
11 Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of the State of
12 Illinois, is held by experts as the "premier child
13 identification program" currently offered in the State of
14 Illinois; the Freemasons of Illinois hold and fund the entire
15 cost of identification workshops for families all around the
16 State of Illinois; and

17 WHEREAS, The Sumner Masonic Lodge is a local sponsor of six
18 Red Cross Blood Drives per year, collecting an average of 28 to
19 40 units of blood per drive; collectively, Masons are one of
20 the largest groups of blood donors in the State of Illinois;
21 and

22 WHEREAS, The Sumner Masonic Lodge also adopted a local Red

1 Hill High School student to help him obtain the rank of Eagle
2 Scout with the Boy Scouts of America; the Masons helped him
3 accomplish his mission of fundraising to provide tombstones for
4 unmarked graves; and

5 WHEREAS, Today the lodge is thriving with ongoing
6 fundraising events, over 125 members, and the same kind of
7 strong brotherhood that makes masonry the greatest fraternity
8 in the world; therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
10 NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
11 congratulate the past, present, and future members of the
12 Sumner Masonic Lodge #334 on its Sesquicentennial anniversary
13 celebration; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
15 presented to the Sumner Masonic Lodge #334 as a symbol of our
16 esteem and respect.