



HR1561

LRB096 24354 KXB 43929 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives are pleased to recognize State Representative  
4 Elizabeth Coulson for her outstanding service and hard work on  
5 behalf of the people of the State of Illinois; and

6           WHEREAS, Representative Coulson was first elected in 1997  
7 to serve the people of the 57th District; after the 2001 remap  
8 of the State, Representative Coulson was asked by the people of  
9 the new 17th district to represent them in the General  
10 Assembly; and

11           WHEREAS, She has received numerous awards during her years  
12 of service, including being named the Healthcare Council of  
13 Illinois' Legislator of the Year, the Action For Children,  
14 Ounce of Prevention and Voices for Illinois Children's Early  
15 Learning Leader Award, the Legislative Advocacy Award from the  
16 Illinois Council Against Handgun Violence, and the 100 Percent  
17 Voting Record Award from the Illinois Environmental Council;  
18 and

19           WHEREAS, Perhaps her greatest achievement was to save 64  
20 babies to date by creating the Abandoned Newborn Infant  
21 Protection Act (often referred to as The Safe Haven Law, this  
22 Act has allowed mothers to leave infants up to 30 days old at

1 safe places such as police stations, fire departments, and  
2 hospitals without fear of criminal action); this successful and  
3 carefully written legislation has led other states to follow  
4 suit; and

5 WHEREAS, Representative Coulson has been a champion for  
6 Ethics and Government Reform by sponsoring legislation to  
7 strengthen the Gift Ban Act, prohibit the appearance of public  
8 officials in public service announcements 60 days prior to the  
9 election, educate government employees on ethics provisions,  
10 and stop the revolving door of government employees into  
11 private insurance; and

12 WHEREAS, Representative Coulson sponsored several  
13 important legislative proposals to reform State government,  
14 including a prohibition on gubernatorial appointees and State  
15 department heads from soliciting contributions for a sitting  
16 governor, and mandating individuals who lobby members of a  
17 State board or commission to be registered under the Lobbyist  
18 Registration Act; and

19 WHEREAS, Representative Coulson also took the lead in  
20 sponsoring a package of bills that would amend State laws to  
21 provide prosecutors and investigators with many of the same  
22 tools available to federal authorities in the investigation and  
23 prosecution of public corruption cases; and

1           WHEREAS, She is a graduate of Wellesley College and the  
2 University of Kansas with a Bachelor of Science degree in  
3 Education; she holds a Master's of Business Administration from  
4 Keller Graduate School of Management; she is also a licensed  
5 Physical Therapist with a degree from Northwestern University  
6 Medical School and was a Professor and Department Chair at  
7 Chicago Medical School from 1981-2002; she is married to  
8 William Coulson; 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 Representative Elizabeth Coulson on her  
12 retirement from the Illinois House of Representatives and wish  
13 her the best in her future endeavors; and be it further

14           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
15 presented to State Representative Elizabeth Coulson as a symbol  
16 of respect and esteem.