



HR0348

LRB097 11860 KXB 55274 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 Harry Osterman for his years of service and hard work on behalf
5 of the people of the State of Illinois; and

6 WHEREAS, Representative Osterman is a lifelong resident of
7 Chicago's North Side, born and bred in the Edgewater community;
8 he served as President of the Edgewater Community Council and
9 as a member of the Edgewater Development Corporation; he
10 attended Illinois State University and Loyola University; he
11 returned to his home neighborhood to help better his community,
12 a value he learned from his mother, former 48th Ward Alderman
13 and later Director of the Mayor's Office of Special Events
14 Kathy Osterman; and

15 WHEREAS, Representative Osterman began his career as an
16 aide to 48th Ward Alderman Mary Ann Smith, serving as a public
17 safety liaison to the Chicago Police Department and Cook County
18 State's Attorney's Office; in 2000, he was appointed to fill a
19 vacancy in the Illinois House of Representatives and has since
20 been overwhelmingly re-elected by his constituents; during his
21 time in the Illinois House, he has earned a reputation as a
22 caring and passionate yet tough advocate for his constituents
23 and for the issues that matter to them; and

1 WHEREAS, Representative Osterman has dedicated his career
2 to making neighborhoods safer and ending gun violence; he has
3 worked with the Chicago Police Department and the law
4 enforcement community to keep illegal weapons off our streets,
5 pass tougher firearm licensing requirements, and ban
6 military-style assault weapons; and

7 WHEREAS, Representative Osterman, in his pursuit of public
8 safety, has worked with neighborhood advocates and law
9 enforcement agencies to increase funding for community
10 policing and violence mediation programs; he has partnered with
11 the Chicago Police Department to increase patrols in high-crime
12 areas and to empower residents with information to help keep
13 their families safe; and

14 WHEREAS, Representative Osterman believes strongly in
15 helping all Illinois citizens attain equality; he helped to
16 pass legislation to ban discrimination based on sexual
17 orientation in housing, lending, employment, and public
18 accommodation, and he has fought for increased funding for
19 programs that help people living with HIV/AIDS; and he helped
20 to pass landmark legislation legalizing civil unions in
21 Illinois; and

22 WHEREAS, Representative Osterman has fought hard for a

1 strong education system that will provide our children with the
2 knowledge and skills they will need to compete in a global
3 economy; he has worked for funding to reduce class sizes and
4 increase quality early education programs; and

5 WHEREAS, Representative Osterman believes that we must
6 preserve and improve our environment for future generations; he
7 has consistently supported efforts to protect Lake Michigan,
8 including helping to create the Great Lakes Compact, and he has
9 secured State funding to improve beach facilities; and

10 WHEREAS, Representative Osterman has championed strong
11 ethics laws, transparency and campaign finance reform; he
12 helped to pass the State's first law limiting campaign
13 contributions and a law banning certain State contractors from
14 donating to the campaigns of the State officeholders who award
15 their contracts; and

16 WHEREAS, Representative Osterman has worked to reduce
17 property taxes, expand access to quality health care, support
18 local parks, foster economic development, and help residents
19 cut red tape; and

20 WHEREAS, Representative Osterman was recently elected
21 Alderman of Chicago's 48th Ward, a role that will allow him to
22 continue as an advocate for the people; and

1 WHEREAS, Representative Osterman is married to the former
2 Peggy Joyce; they are the proud parents of Jack, Harry, and
3 Katie; and Representative Osterman is known affectionately to
4 his colleagues as "Mr. Mom"; therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
6 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
7 we congratulate Representative Harry Osterman on his ascension
8 from the Illinois House of Representatives to the Chicago City
9 Council and wish him the best as he begins a new journey of
10 public service; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
12 presented to Representative Osterman as a symbol of our respect
13 and esteem.