



HR0415

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives are pleased to congratulate Dr. Robert A.  
4 Easter on his retirement from the University of Illinois at  
5 Urbana-Champaign; and

6           WHEREAS, Robert A. Easter is Interim Vice President and  
7 Chancellor at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
8 and Professor of Animal Sciences and Nutritional Sciences;  
9 prior to this appointment Dr. Easter was Dean of the College of  
10 Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences (ACES) from  
11 2002-2009; he has also served as Head of the Department of  
12 Animal Sciences from 1996 to 2001, and has been on the Animal  
13 Sciences faculty since 1976; and

14           WHEREAS, Dr. Easter earned a Bachelor's degree in  
15 agricultural education in 1970 and a Master's degree in animal  
16 nutrition in 1972, both from Texas A&M University; he completed  
17 a doctorate in animal science at the University of Illinois in  
18 1976 and immediately joined the Animal Science Department as an  
19 assistant professor of swine nutrition and management; and

20           WHEREAS, Dr. Easter was commissioned as a second lieutenant  
21 in the United States Army in 1972, and he completed 20 years of  
22 United States Army Reserve service in 1992 with the rank of

1 major; and

2 WHEREAS, In 2006, President George W. Bush appointed Dr.  
3 Easter to the Board for International Food and Agricultural  
4 Development (BIFAD); in 2007, he was appointed chair of BIFAD;  
5 Dr. Easter is also a member of the American Society of Animal  
6 Science (ASAS), the British Society of Animal Science, the  
7 Council for Agricultural Science and Technology, and the  
8 Illinois Council for Food and Agricultural Research (C-FAR);  
9 and

10 WHEREAS, His teaching has been recognized with numerous  
11 campus awards, as well as the ASAS Midwest Section Award; in  
12 addition, Dr. Easter received the ASAS American Feed Industry  
13 Association Award in Non-Ruminant Nutrition Research in 1992,  
14 and the University of Illinois College of ACES prestigious Paul  
15 A. Funk Award for contributions to Illinois agriculture in  
16 1994; and

17 WHEREAS, In his present role as Interim Vice President and  
18 Chancellor, Dr. Easter is the chief executive officer for the  
19 Urbana-Champaign campus; he is in charge of all financial  
20 programs, campus policies, and priorities with the goal of  
21 ensuring a memorable educational experience for America's next  
22 generation of leaders; the campus has a budget of \$1.5 billion  
23 with more than \$400 million in research expenditures; there are

1 42,000 students and 3,000 faculty members; the university is  
2 renowned for its interdisciplinary collaborations, advances in  
3 human understanding, community outreach, global partnerships,  
4 and life-changing scientific developments; and

5 WHEREAS, Dr. Easter's current plans are to retire on August  
6 15, 2011; therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
8 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
9 we congratulate Dr. Easter on his retirement and wish him  
10 continued success in all his future endeavors; and be it  
11 further

12 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
13 presented to Dr. Robert Easter as a symbol of our respect and  
14 esteem.