



HR0836

LRB097 20674 KXB 66895 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Lester F.
4 Macko of Cary, who passed away on January 12, 2012; and

5 WHEREAS, He was born September 2, 1930, to Frank and Anne
6 Macko, and lived his entire life in the Cary and Fox River
7 Grove area; he married Frances Cassell in 1952 and they had 5
8 children, the late Steven, Anne, Jeff, Leslie, and Carlene
9 Macko; and

10 WHEREAS, He proudly served in the United States Army as a
11 Private First Class during the Korean War from 1952 to 1954;
12 upon his honorable discharge he became a lifetime member of the
13 Frank H. Nagel Jr. Post of the American Legion in Fox River
14 Grove; and

15 WHEREAS, Along with his brother, Karl, he founded and
16 operated Macko Brothers Construction in McHenry County; he
17 joined the Cary Fire Protection District in 1963 as a volunteer
18 firefighter; his dedication to fire safety lead to his
19 promotion as Fire Chief in 1975; and

20 WHEREAS, He was an innovator in the development of
21 emergency medical training of paramedics in the 1970s, helping

1 organize the McHenry/Western Lake County Emergency Medical
2 System, and later helped found the Fire Science program at
3 McHenry College, which continues to provide critical training
4 to firefighters; his leadership lead to the hiring of the Cary
5 Fire Protection District's first full-time paramedic and to the
6 purchase of the District's first Mobile Intensive Care Unit;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, His leadership was critical as a founding member
9 of McHenry County's Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS Division
10 5) that provides pre-planned response of fire and rescue
11 services to other communities when a large scale emergency
12 occurs that requires the assistance of other fire departments,
13 and he was an important factor in MABAS-IL becoming a model for
14 other states; and

15 WHEREAS, His dedication to fire protection and public
16 safety lead to the decisions of his son Steven and his son Jeff
17 in becoming firefighters; and

18 WHEREAS, He retired from the Cary Fire Protection District
19 after 37 years of service, serving as Chief for 25 years; after
20 his retirement he remained active in the Illinois Fire Chiefs,
21 the McHenry County Fire Chiefs, and the Lake County Fire Chiefs
22 associations, and in 2008, was named Fire Chief Emeritus by the
23 Illinois Fire Chiefs Association; and

1 WHEREAS, He was preceded in death by his beloved wife,
2 Frances Macko; his son Steve Macko; and his brother, Karl
3 Macko; and

4 WHEREAS, Lester Macko is survived by his children, Anne
5 Macko, Jeff Macko, Leslie Macko, and Carlene Macko; his
6 grandchildren, Amy Tamason, Kayla Macko, Stephanie Nommensen,
7 Jeffrey Sandburg, and Carl Macko; his great-grandchildren,
8 Brayden, Dylan, Quinn, and Loralye; his sister, Doris Nastal;
9 and his daughter-in-law, Diane Grever; therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
11 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
12 we mourn, along with his family, friends, and all whose lives
13 he touched, the passing of retired Cary Fire Protection
14 District Chief Lester F. Macko; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
16 presented to the family of Lester F. Macko and to the Cary Fire
17 Protection District as a symbol of our sincere sympathy.