



SR1053

LRB097 23715 MST 72793 r

1 SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Senator Carole Pankau has represented the  
3 citizens of DuPage County, Illinois, with distinction in the  
4 General Assembly for 20 years; and

5 WHEREAS, Senator Pankau has served with honor in the Senate  
6 since 2005, after 6 terms in the House of Representatives; and

7 WHEREAS, Senator Pankau's priorities have always been  
8 those of the people she represents, and she has served as an  
9 advocate for taxpayers, families, and seniors; and

10 WHEREAS, Senator Pankau became a lawmaker to make the State  
11 of Illinois a better place to live, bringing State government  
12 from the marble halls of the Capitol back home to the  
13 communities of DuPage County; and

14 WHEREAS, During her time in Springfield, Senator Pankau has  
15 fought for common-sense fiscal policy changes within the  
16 State's Medicaid program and served on Medicaid task forces  
17 geared toward ending the State's backlog of Medicaid bills  
18 while cutting fraud and waste; and

19 WHEREAS, Senator Pankau has sponsored laws providing  
20 transparency for State contracts and ease of public access

1 through State websites; and

2 WHEREAS, Senator Pankau has always fought for the rights of  
3 Illinois' senior citizens through sponsorship of  
4 senior-related bills ranging from legislation that eased  
5 banking transactions to property tax assistance for seniors;  
6 and

7 WHEREAS, Senator Pankau has served as Republican  
8 Spokesperson for the Senate Commerce Committee, helping to  
9 guide public policy that impacted small businesses, business  
10 competitiveness and innovation, and consumer protection; and

11 WHEREAS, Senator Pankau was selected to serve as Senate  
12 Republican Whip from 2009 to 2011; and

13 WHEREAS, Senator Pankau also served as a member of the  
14 Senate Energy Committee, the Senate Environment Committee, the  
15 Senate Public Health Committee, the Senate State Government and  
16 Veterans' Affairs Committee, co-chair of the Legislative  
17 Printing Unit Board, a member of the Deficit Reduction  
18 Committee, the Local Government Consolidation Commission, the  
19 Legislative Research Unit Board, the Commission to the  
20 Elimination of Poverty, and the Obesity Prevention Initiative;  
21 and

1           WHEREAS, Senator Pankau has served as the co-chair of the  
2 Conference of Women Legislators; and

3           WHEREAS, A number of local and State organizations have  
4 honored Senator Pankau for her efforts in the General Assembly,  
5 including the Illinois Chamber of Commerce, the Illinois Farm  
6 Bureau, the Suburban Mayors Action Coalition, the Management  
7 Association of Illinois, the Illinois Federation for Right to  
8 Life Inc., the Illinois Coalition for Competitive  
9 Telecommunications, the National Federation of Independent  
10 Business, the Illinois Association for Marriage and Family  
11 Therapy, the Illinois Mechanical & Specialty Contractors'  
12 Association, the American Cancer Society, the Respiratory  
13 Health Association of Metropolitan Chicago, Lutheran Child &  
14 Family Services of Illinois, the Coalition for Comprehensive  
15 Telecommunications, the Illinois Optometric Association, the  
16 Employment Law Council of Illinois, A.B.A.T.E, the Illinois  
17 Association of Park Districts, the DuPage County Farm Bureau,  
18 the Village of Schaumburg, DeVry University, the Life Services  
19 Network, and the R.Ed.I. Arts and Education Foundation; and

20           WHEREAS, Senator Pankau has been involved in many civic  
21 organizations, including the Bloomingdale Republican Women's  
22 Club, the Illinois Federation of Republican Women, the National  
23 Order of Women Legislators, the Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority, Purdue  
24 University, the Bank of Itasca Business Advisory Board, and the

1 First Suburban National Bank Business Advisory Board; and

2 WHEREAS, Senator Pankau has been involved in local Chambers  
3 of Commerce, including Addison, Bloomingdale, Carol Stream,  
4 Elmhurst, Glendale Heights, Lombard, Roselle, Villa Park,  
5 Wheaton, Winfield, and Wood Dale; and

6 WHEREAS, Senator Pankau served as a DuPage County Board  
7 member for 8 years; and

8 WHEREAS, Senator Pankau served as a Keeneyville School  
9 District 20 Board member for 8 years; and

10 WHEREAS, For 18 years, Senator Pankau served as a  
11 Bloomingdale Township Republican Organization Precinct 51  
12 Committeeman; and

13 WHEREAS, Senator Pankau served on the DuPage County Board  
14 of Health for 4 years and the DuPage Housing Authority for 4  
15 years; and

16 WHEREAS, Senator Pankau has served on the Historic  
17 Preservation Commission since 2006; and

18 WHEREAS, Since 1992, Senator Pankau has hosted the "In  
19 Focus" cable TV Program; and

1           WHEREAS, Senator Pankau spent 18 years as a small-business  
2 owner and manager; in 1976, Senator Pankau, together with her  
3 husband, John, opened Bloomingdale Carriage Shop and Aaron's  
4 Towing; during difficult times, Senator Pankau often climbed  
5 into the driver's seat and drove the tow trucks herself; and

6           WHEREAS, Senator Pankau was born August 13, 1947, in  
7 Valparaiso, Indiana; and

8           WHEREAS, Senator Pankau earned a bachelor's of science  
9 degree in accounting from the University of Illinois; and

10           WHEREAS, Senator Pankau and her husband, John, have been  
11 married since 1966 and have 4 children and 11 grandchildren;  
12 and

13           WHEREAS, In her 20 years as a lawmaker, Senator Pankau has  
14 represented her constituents in Springfield with determination  
15 and class, earning the respect and admiration of her colleagues  
16 on both sides of the aisle; and

17           WHEREAS, Lawmakers and staff alike know and appreciate  
18 Senator Pankau for her energy, boundless enthusiasm for  
19 community service, and her easy-going, cheerful nature;  
20 therefore, be it

1           RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL  
2 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we congratulate Senator  
3 Carole Pankau on her retirement from the Illinois General  
4 Assembly after 20 years of honorable and dedicated service; and  
5 be it further

6           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
7 presented to Senator Pankau with our friendship, our gratitude  
8 for her hard work, and our best wishes for her future  
9 endeavors.