



HR0430

LRB098 12254 GRL 46412 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives are pleased to congratulate the members of SouthEastern Illinois Electric Cooperative on the 75th anniversary of their cooperative; and

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WHEREAS, SouthEastern Illinois Electric Cooperative was officially formed on October 5, 1938 in Harrisburg, Illinois, through the hard work and dedication of a handful of local residents wanting to improve living and farming conditions for themselves and their neighbors; and

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WHEREAS, Because of the lack of density, it simply wasn't possible for the for-profit utilities to make a profit serving rural areas with only a few farms or homes per mile of electric line; with the help of loans from the Rural Electrification Administration (REA), the people living in these rural areas banded together to form member-owned and member-governed electric cooperatives; and

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WHEREAS, This group of local residents went door to door signing up their neighbors to become members of SouthEastern Illinois Electric Cooperative and convincing them that a cooperative would bring lights and power to the rural area; and

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1 WHEREAS, Their hard work paid off and SouthEastern Illinois
2 Electric Cooperative's lines were first energized on January
3 24, 1940, initially serving 300 member-owners in Saline County;
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5 WHEREAS, SouthEastern Illinois Electric Cooperative
6 continues to provides reliable electric service to
7 member-owners in Franklin, Gallatin, Hamilton, Hardin,
8 Johnson, Massac, Pope, Saline, White, and Williamson counties;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, For 75 years, the cooperative has served its
11 member-owners based on 7 guiding principles: voluntary and open
12 membership, member-elected and controlled boards of directors,
13 members' economic participation, autonomy and independence,
14 education and training, cooperation among cooperatives, and
15 concern for community; therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
17 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
18 we congratulate the members of the SouthEastern Illinois
19 Electric Cooperative on the 75th anniversary of their
20 cooperative; and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
22 presented to SouthEastern Illinois Electric Cooperative as a

1 symbol of our esteem and respect.