



HR0526

LRB098 12927 MST 47432 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are pleased to congratulate David F. Vite on
4 his retirement as President and Chief Executive Officer of the
5 Illinois Retail Merchants Association; and

6 WHEREAS, The Illinois Retail Merchants Association is the
7 statewide professional organization for retailing and a voice
8 of the business community in State government, representing
9 more than 23,000 stores of all sizes and merchandise lines
10 across Illinois; and

11 WHEREAS, David Vite joined the Illinois Retail Merchants
12 Association in 1978 as a Field Representative; during his
13 career with the Association, he held the positions of Manager
14 Member Relations, Vice President Government Affairs, and
15 Executive Vice President, becoming President in May 1985; and

16 WHEREAS, As the Illinois Retail Merchants Association's
17 chief lobbyist, David Vite directed all legislative and
18 governmental affairs activities and served as liaison for
19 members of the Association with elected officials and
20 administrative, department, and agency representatives; he was
21 named "Best Business Lobbyist" by Crain's Chicago Business; and

1 WHEREAS, David Vite served as a member of the Employment
2 Security Advisory Board for more than 20 years under 5 Illinois
3 governors; he served on the Workers' Compensation Advisory
4 Board and on the Board of Directors and Executive Committee of
5 the National Retail Federation for 2 years; he chaired the
6 National Association of State Retail Association Executives
7 for one term, and served as the Speaker of the Illinois Third
8 House in 2002; and

9 WHEREAS, David Vite has taken part in negotiations on some
10 of the most historic issues facing the State of Illinois; in
11 1988, he and the Illinois Retail Merchants Association helped
12 reform Illinois tax laws and, in 1997, he was chosen by the
13 Legislative Caucus Chairs to facilitate discussions on
14 electric deregulation, one of the State's most comprehensive
15 pieces of legislation in decades; and

16 WHEREAS, David Vite has devoted much of his life to serving
17 the public interest; he served on the school board of St.
18 Mary's Elementary School in Woodstock for 5 years and as
19 Chairman for 2 years; he spent 8 years on the Memorial Hospital
20 of McHenry County Board of Directors from 1989-1997, holding
21 the position of Board Chairman for 3 years; he also served on
22 the Centegra Health System Board of Directors for 2 years; and

23 WHEREAS, David Vite is a United States Army veteran and a

1 graduate of the University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse; he and his
2 wife, Jane, have 2 daughters, Amanda (husband Chris) and
3 Gretchen (husband Aaron) and one granddaughter, Vivian, the
4 apple of his eye; therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
6 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
7 we congratulate David F. Vite on his retirement as President
8 and Chief Executive Officer of the Illinois Retail Merchants
9 Association and wish him the best in all his future endeavours;
10 and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
12 presented to David Vite as an expression of our esteem and
13 respect.