



HR0558

LRB098 13511 MST 48034 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are pleased to congratulate Mayor Jackie D.
4 "Butch" Mathus, Jr. and the City of Wamac on the occasion of
5 the city's 100th anniversary; and

6 WHEREAS, On July 5, 1913 a special election was held to
7 incorporate Wamac into a city, which was previously recognized
8 as a village; and

9 WHEREAS, Many of the original residents of Wamac were
10 Italian, and some of the same families are still living in
11 Wamac today, a testament to how well-liked the city is by its
12 residents; and

13 WHEREAS, Wamac was named by A.P. Bindham, who derived the
14 name from the counties that mark the city's boundaries; "WA"
15 comes from Washington County, "MA" comes from Marion County,
16 and "C" comes from Clinton County; and

17 WHEREAS, The first mayor elected to serve the city of Wamac
18 was C.A. Campbell; and

19 WHEREAS, At the 2010 census, the population of Wamac was
20 1,185 people; and

1 WHEREAS, This year, an open house was held at Wamac City
2 Hall on July 5, and the "Wamac Fest" will be held on September
3 21, 2013 in celebration of the city's 100th anniversary; and

4 WHEREAS, Wamac is known for being the site of the Number 5
5 Coal Mine disaster; on March 25, 1947 at 3:26 p.m., an
6 explosion occurred in the mine; 142 coal miners were working at
7 the time, 8 of them were rescued and 23 escaped, leaving 111
8 miners dead; a memorial in Wamac City Park is dedicated to the
9 miners who lost their lives in the disaster so that they may
10 always be remembered; and

11 WHEREAS, Wamac is the home of the first female voter in
12 Illinois, O.W. Coleman, who voted in an Illinois special
13 election on July 5, 1913, which incorporated Wamac as a city;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, Wamac was originally founded due to its excellent
16 location - its proximity to railroad, oil, and liquor stores in
17 an otherwise dry area made it an ideal place to settle down;
18 therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
20 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
21 we congratulate the City of Wamac on its 100th anniversary; and

1 be it further

2 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
3 presented to Mayor Mathus and the City of Wamac as a symbol of
4 our respect and esteem.