



HR0616

LRB098 14434 GRL 49120 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Diane E.
4 Wilkins, who passed away on October 12, 2013; and

5 WHEREAS, Diane Wilkins was born on December 22, 1946 in
6 Aurora; her parents were Alvin Ray and Dorothy Evelyn (nee
7 Hill) Niswander; she married Ted Wilkins on April 14, 1984 at
8 Paulton Church of God; she attended school in Aurora and was a
9 graduate of Aurora High School; and

10 WHEREAS, During the Vietnam War, Diane Wilkins served her
11 country by enlisting with the United States Army, where she
12 worked as a surgical assistant in plastic surgery until her
13 honorable discharge; and

14 WHEREAS, Diane Wilkins was a member of Marion Elks Club
15 Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks No. 800 and was made an
16 honorary member of Marion VFW Heyde-Pillow Post 1301; she was
17 also an honorary member of many other civic organizations; and

18 WHEREAS, Diane Wilkins was employed with the United States
19 Postal Service as a rural mail carrier for many years; in the
20 early 1990s, she began working for The Daily Republican
21 newspaper in Marion as an inserter; she later became one of its

1 news reporters, a position she thoroughly enjoyed until her
2 retirement in 2009; she met and spoke with many famous people
3 during her career, including Presidents Ronald Reagan, George
4 H.W. Bush, George W. Bush, and Barack Obama, and Lady
5 Antebellum; and

6 WHEREAS, Diane Wilkins enjoyed watching the news, spending
7 time with her cats, and playing bingo; and

8 WHEREAS, Diane Wilkins was preceded in death by her parents
9 and her husband, Ted Wilkins; and

10 WHEREAS, Diane Wilkins is survived by her daughter and
11 son-in-law, Jennifer L. and Darrell Calhoun; her son, Brian
12 Rendleman; her 6 grandchildren; her beloved cat, Smokey; and
13 her other extended family members and friends; therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
15 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
16 we, along with her family and friends, mourn the passing of
17 Diane E. Wilkins; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
19 presented to the family of Diane Wilkins as an expression of
20 our sympathy.