



HR0786

LRB098 18195 GRL 53324 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to congratulate the Heath family, the
4 Crawford County Heritage Foundation, the Robinson Area Chamber
5 of Commerce and the City of Robinson on the occasion of the
6 Heath Candy Company's 100th anniversary; and

7 WHEREAS, The rich history of Heath Candy started in early
8 1914, when L.S. Heath was looking for a business for his two
9 elder sons, Bayard and Everett (Skiv); on January 7, 1914, they
10 opened the Heath Brothers Confectionery, where they sold
11 fountain drinks, ice cream, and homemade candies; and

12 WHEREAS, Bayard and Skiv continued to expand their
13 confectionary business by introducing new items, which proved
14 to be very popular with their customers; after acquiring a
15 popular "Trail-Toffee" recipe from a Greek candy maker in
16 Champaign, Bayard decided to develop it further; in 1928, after
17 many months of trial and error, the brothers declared their
18 formula for "English Toffee" to be "America's Finest", and
19 dubbed it Heath English Toffee; and

20 WHEREAS, In 1931, the brothers began selling their new
21 confectionary and moved to the dairy industry with their
22 father, but continued their enterprise in a small kitchen they

1 built; the brothers had new delivery order forms printed to
2 include an additional selection, "Heath English Toffee Bars";
3 when this item was checked, the milk route driver left a box of
4 the delicious candy along with the dairy needs; this simple
5 marketing plan worked and the Heath English Toffee Bars grew in
6 popularity as the market base grew; and

7 WHEREAS, In 1946, the company was incorporated as L.S.
8 Heath and Sons, Inc.; included in the original corporation were
9 L.S. Heath and his 4 sons, along with his daughters, Ruby Heath
10 Dowling and Mary Heath Morris, and the grandchildren living at
11 that time; and

12 WHEREAS, The Heath family said farewell to the company on
13 January 24, 1989, when L.S. Heath and Sons became a subsidiary
14 of Leaf, Inc.; headquartered in Bannockburn, Leaf's is a
15 subsidiary company of Huhtamaki Oyj of Helsinki, Finland; in
16 January of 1997, Leaf sold their North American operations to
17 Hershey Chocolate, U.S.A. under the leadership of Hershey;
18 currently, the Robinson plant manufactures a variety of
19 candies, including the original Heath English Toffee Bar; and

20 WHEREAS, The Heath Candy Company was and still is a vital
21 part of the Robinson community; L.S. and his sons will forever
22 serve as models of hard work, integrity, and dedication for the
23 people in Robinson and the State of Illinois; therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
2 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
3 we congratulate the Heath Family on the Heath Candy Company's
4 100th anniversary and recognize and thank those that continue
5 to preserve the history of this great company; and be it
6 further

7 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
8 presented to Roger Pethtel, Mayor of Robinson, as a symbol of
9 our esteem and respect.