



HR1102

LRB098 21312 MST 59530 r

1

HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are pleased to learn that the historic Pasfield
4 House Inn has been chosen to appear on the official Springfield
5 city ornament for the 2014 holiday season; and

6 WHEREAS, The Pasfield House Inn will be featured on the
7 22nd Springfield city ornament, in a series depicting landmarks
8 or events unique to Springfield; and

9 WHEREAS, The Pasfield House Inn, a historically
10 significant Springfield landmark, was acquired in 1996 by
11 former Republican Clerk of the House Tony Leone and extensively
12 renovated; and

13 WHEREAS, Tony Leone was recognized by the Illinois House of
14 Representatives for his revitalization of the west side of the
15 Capitol Complex, by being appointed to the Advisory Board of
16 the Illinois Capitol Historic Preservation Board, as well as by
17 the Illinois Governor as a trustee to the Illinois Historic
18 Preservation Board; and

19 WHEREAS, The Pasfield House Inn is located just west of the
20 current State Capitol Complex and was once part of a 40-acre
21 estate that 3 generations of Pasfields had resided on since the

1 early 1840s; and

2 WHEREAS, The Pasfields played a significant role in
3 Springfield becoming the State capitol; and

4 WHEREAS, George Pasfield and wife, Mary, arrived in
5 Springfield in 1831 and established the first grocery emporium
6 on the new public square and was instrumental in the town's
7 early growth; and

8 WHEREAS, George Pasfield was among 40 local businessmen who
9 pledged to invest in a bond to build what is now the Old State
10 Capitol in Springfield should the legislature, then in
11 Vandalia, consider relocation to Springfield; and

12 WHEREAS, The Illinois General Assembly passed legislation
13 in 1837 to relocate the State's capitol to Springfield thanks
14 to the efforts of Abraham Lincoln and "the long nine", along
15 with the financial support of George Pasfield's business group;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, In the early 1900s, his grandson, George Pasfield,
18 Jr., owner of what is now known as the Pasfield House, became
19 President of a local business group, Capitol Grounds Purchase
20 Association, which acquired all residential property south of
21 the current Capitol building, allowing expansion; and

1 WHEREAS, George Pasfield, Jr. testified before the
2 Illinois Senate, requesting that a building be erected on the
3 expanded grounds; and

4 WHEREAS, In 1918, construction began on the Illinois
5 Centennial Building, now the Howlett Building; and

6 WHEREAS, The Illinois Centennial Building, along with the
7 erection of the Supreme Court Building, established the
8 permanency of Springfield as the State Capital; therefore, be
9 it

10 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
11 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
12 we commend Tony Leone for his passion and dedication to promote
13 and preserve the State's history, while raising the bar for all
14 future historical restoration efforts throughout the City of
15 Springfield; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That we laud the City of Springfield for choosing
17 the Pasfield House Inn to appear on the official 2014
18 Springfield City Ornament; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
20 presented to Pasfield House Inn proprietor Tony Leone and

1 Springfield Mayor Michael Houston as an expression of our
2 esteem and respect.