



HR1178

LRB098 21604 MST 60363 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives wish to congratulate Secretary of State Jesse  
4 White on becoming the longest serving Secretary of State in  
5 Illinois history on May 30, 2014; and

6           WHEREAS, Secretary White served in the General Assembly for  
7 16 years, as Cook County Recorder of Deeds for 6 years, and was  
8 first elected Secretary of State in 1998 - the first  
9 African-American to serve in that position; he won landslide  
10 re-election in 2002, 2006, and 2010; and

11           WHEREAS, Secretary White has strengthened the Secretary of  
12 State Inspector General's Office, reformed the State's  
13 Commercial Driver's License Program, cracked down on fraud and  
14 abuse in the Parking Program for Persons with Disabilities,  
15 fought for tougher DUI laws, enforced investor protection laws,  
16 streamlined operations to improve customer service, and  
17 continued to upgrade and expand the range of services available  
18 online; and

19           WHEREAS, Secretary White has introduced groundbreaking  
20 programs and legislative initiatives that have made Illinois a  
21 national leader in traffic safety and directly led to saved  
22 lives on the roads; the Secretary of State's Organ/Tissue Donor

1 Program has received national acclaim and continues to serve as  
2 a model for other states; and

3 WHEREAS, Secretary White has always had a commitment to  
4 improving young lives; he founded the internationally renowned  
5 Jesse White Tumbling Team in 1959 and continues to work with  
6 the team to help at-risk youth stay drug-free and in school; as  
7 State librarian, he brought his innovative Project Next  
8 Generation program to public libraries across the State; and

9 WHEREAS, Secretary White was born in Alton and earned his  
10 Bachelor of Science degree in 1957 from Alabama State College;  
11 he served in the United States Army's 101st Airborne Division  
12 and as a member of the Illinois National Guard and Army  
13 Reserve; he played professional baseball with the Chicago Cubs  
14 organization and spent 33 years as a teacher and administrator  
15 with Chicago public schools; and

16 WHEREAS, During his tenure as Secretary of State, Jesse  
17 White has made Illinois's roads safer, raised the ethical  
18 standards in his office, and used modern technology to make his  
19 office consumer friendly; therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
21 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
22 we congratulate Secretary of State Jesse White on becoming the

1 longest serving Secretary of State in Illinois history and wish  
2 him many more years of success; and be it further

3       RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
4 presented to Secretary White as an expression of our esteem and  
5 respect.