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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are pleased to recognize significant
4 milestones and achievements of people, communities, and
5 organizations in the State of Illinois; and

6 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
7 Representatives wish to congratulate the East St. Louis chapter
8 of Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc., and the Top Teens of
9 America on their 30th anniversary of service and leadership in
10 the East St. Louis community and metropolitan area; and

11 WHEREAS, The national body of Top Ladies of Distinction,
12 Inc. was organized on June 4, 1964 in Tyler, Texas, with the
13 purpose of coordinating professional women to help young
14 people; and

15 WHEREAS, Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc. has expanded its
16 purpose to enhancing the status of women, fostering the
17 development of youth through the Top Teens of America,
18 providing for community beautification, supporting senior
19 citizens, and creating community partnerships; and

20 WHEREAS, Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc. has formed
21 coalitions with other organizations, including the United

1 Negro College Fund, the March of Dimes, the National
2 Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the American
3 Association of Retired Peoples, the Children's Defense Fund,
4 the Assault on Illiteracy, the National Council of Negro Women,
5 and many other human rights, social service, and
6 community-based organizations; and

7 WHEREAS, As membership in Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc.
8 grew throughout the United States due to the efforts of dynamic
9 and aggressive professional women, the East St. Louis chapter
10 of Area 3 was being formed under the leadership of Peggy Lewis
11 Le Compte, Chapter Organizer, who later became the
12 organization's 10th National President; and

13 WHEREAS, On January 20, 1985, at the Ramada Inn in Fairview
14 Heights, the East St. Louis chapter was chartered and 40 ladies
15 from various social and economic stratum of the community were
16 inducted; and

17 WHEREAS, Since its inception, the East St. Louis chapter
18 has provided outstanding and exemplary programs and services,
19 including adoption of the Virgil Calvert Nursing Home (Nathan
20 Care), building Habitat for Humanity homes, the Status of Women
21 "Women of Courage" program, adoption and decoration of a room
22 at the "Call for Help" facility for battered women, preparing
23 and mailing care packages to women serving in Iraq through the

1 Healthy Choice Program, and collaborating with the East St.
2 Louis Senior Citizens Health Fair Consortium; and

3 WHEREAS, In 1999, the East St. Louis chapter incorporated
4 the recognition of role models as part of its "Young Men of
5 Distinction"; this event represents various career areas and
6 has grown each year; through their efforts, the chapter has
7 continually been chosen as a Five Star Chapter; and

8 WHEREAS, The East St. Louis chapter of Top Ladies of
9 Distinction, Inc. serves as an organization of hard work,
10 dedication, and service for the people of the State and
11 community; therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
13 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
14 congratulate the Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc., East St.
15 Louis Chapter, on their 30th anniversary; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
17 presented to the Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc., East St.
18 Louis Chapter, as an expression of our esteem and respect.