



HR0105

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of former
4 Kane County Sheriff George Kramer, who passed away on January
5 24, 2015; and

6 WHEREAS, George Kramer was born on August 20, 1933 in
7 Aurora; his parents were Herman and Evelyn (nee Holter) Kramer;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, George Kramer was raised on a dairy farm and
10 attended school in a one-room schoolhouse; he later attended
11 the Marmion Military Academy from 1949 to 1952; in 1994, he was
12 inducted into the Academy's Hall of Fame; and

13 WHEREAS, George Kramer met his wife, Trudy, through mutual
14 friends after high school; after marrying in 1953, the pair
15 began their married lives together at Fort Leonard Wood in
16 Missouri, where he was stationed at the time; and

17 WHEREAS, George Kramer was a prolific athlete; after
18 graduating from high school, he attended the University of
19 Dayton in Ohio on a football scholarship; unfortunately, he
20 left there after only a year of study in order to return home
21 and help on the family farm; and

1 WHEREAS, As a testament to his strong sense of character
2 and determination, George Kramer completed his collegiate
3 studies in the 1970s; after attending Waubonsee Community
4 College, he would ultimately earn a Bachelor's Degree in Law
5 Enforcement from Lewis University; and

6 WHEREAS, George Kramer was a semi-professional football
7 player and a professional wrestler; he also played for the
8 Aurora Clippers and Elmhurst Travelers semi-professional
9 football teams; during his tenure as a professional wrestler,
10 he was known as "Tiny" Kramer; and

11 WHEREAS, George Kramer began his laudable career in law
12 enforcement with the Batavia Police Department, serving the
13 Department for 23 years; and

14 WHEREAS, In 1978, George Kramer was elected to serve his
15 community as Sheriff; he would go on to serve 2 continuous
16 4-year terms from 1978 to 1986; and

17 WHEREAS, George Kramer's illustrious career in law
18 enforcement was marked most notably by his benevolent work with
19 youths in the correctional system; with the help of his
20 longtime friend and Undersheriff, Pete Perez, he created
21 various programs designed to assist juvenile offenders,

1 including the Kane County Juvenile Officers Association; and

2 WHEREAS, Pete Perez's son and former Kane County Sheriff,
3 Pat Perez, summed up the work of Sheriff Kramer and
4 Undersheriff Perez best; in recounting the tireless efforts of
5 Mr. Kramer and his father to visit youth homes in Kane County,
6 Pat Perez recalled that, "they saw [the need to help troubled
7 youths at home] as an avenue to help get kids back on the
8 straight and narrow" and that "they'd seen the ups and downs of
9 law enforcement together ... [yet] I think they learned to stay
10 ... willing to evolve"; and

11 WHEREAS, George Kramer is survived by his wife, Trudy, and
12 their 7 children; one of his children, Donald Kramer, currently
13 serves as Kane County Sheriff; and

14 WHEREAS, George Kramer's outstanding legacy is marked by
15 the love for his family, the resilient devotion to helping
16 at-risk youth, and the unwavering passion he displayed for the
17 protection of his community; therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
19 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
20 mourn the passing of George Kramer and extend our sincere
21 condolences to his family, friends, and all those who knew and
22 loved him; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
2 presented to the family of George Kramer as an expression of
3 our deepest sympathy and most sincere appreciation for his
4 service to the residents of Kane County.