



HR0315

LRB099 11502 GRL 32688 r

1

HOUSE RESOLUTION

2

WHEREAS, German-Bliss Equipment is celebrating the 75th anniversary of its founding as the L.E. German Implement Company in Princeville; and

3

4

5

WHEREAS, L. E. "Lou" German moved his family to Peoria from Paducah, Kentucky in the hopes of finding work, proving himself, and taking care of his family, resulting in landing a job with R. G. Letourneau and eventually the Allis Chalmers Machinery Company; Lou German followed his dream of selling farm equipment from his own business, setting up shop on his own in the spring of 1940; and

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

WHEREAS, The L.E. German Implement Company started by selling Allis Chalmers equipment from a rented store front; the company eventually moved to their own land and began a pattern of diversifying with Massey-Harris, Ferguson, and eventually Massey-Ferguson in the late 1950s; and

13

14

15

16

17

WHEREAS, Lou German's oldest son, Bill, moved on to another opportunity, which allowed the younger brother, Chuck, to take a larger role and diversify the company even further; he obtained the Ford Tractor franchise, opened a new branch in Peoria, became a State of Illinois certified truck testing facility, and recognized the potential of Kubota Tractors,

18

19

20

21

22

1 which enabled the company to become the oldest and largest
2 dealer of Kubota in Illinois; and

3 WHEREAS, The L.E. German Implement Company continued to
4 expand and opened another branch in East Peoria; Chuck German
5 was also honored by being elected as the President of the North
6 American Equipment Dealers Association, one of the longest
7 running trade organizations in North America; and

8 WHEREAS, Lou German found himself being led to Jesus Christ
9 in the late 1930s, which changed the course of his family;
10 through Chuck's leadership, this led to the purchase of the
11 Bliss Implement Company in 2000 and forming what is now
12 German-Bliss Equipment; and

13 WHEREAS, Chuck German and his wife, Kathy, have been
14 blessed with a daughter, Gretchen, who is involved in 4 Kubota
15 dealerships in the Cincinnati, Ohio area, and 3 sons, Jeff,
16 David, and Greg; Jeff is a missionary in Thailand with Wycliffe
17 Bible Translators, David is a primary care physician in
18 Glasgow, Kentucky, and Greg serves as the President of
19 German-Bliss Equipment; therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
21 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
22 congratulate the owners of German-Bliss Equipment on the

1 occasion of its 75th anniversary and on its commitment to
2 central Illinois and the communities they serve, including
3 Princeville, East Peoria, and now Springfield; and be it
4 further

5 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
6 presented to Greg German, President of German-Bliss Equipment,
7 Inc.