



HR0420

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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 our
4 former colleague, Ann Stepan of Chicago, who passed away on
5 April 17, 2015; and

6 WHEREAS, Ann Stepan was born on September 27, 1943, the
7 fourth of the 6 children of Robert Ruppe and Eileen Bauser
8 Ruppe; she studied at Barat College in Lake Forest; and

9 WHEREAS, In 1965, Ann married her soulmate and high school
10 sweetheart, Paul H. Stepan, who preceded her in death in 2013;
11 for 48 years, they shared an enduring love and marriage; they
12 were the loving and beloved parents of Shannon and Paul, and
13 the proud grandparents of Ava, Kathleen, Owen, and Emily; and

14 WHEREAS, Ann traveled to Selma, Alabama at the age of 21 to
15 participate in the historic civil rights march to Montgomery;
16 Ann focused her passion for social justice on changing and
17 improving the world through her involvement in politics at the
18 local, state, and national levels; and

19 WHEREAS, Ann Stepan was elected as the first female
20 Democratic Committeeman for Chicago's 43rd Ward in 1984 and was
21 re-elected in 1988; her ward organization was known as one of

1 the strongest and most effective in the city; and

2 WHEREAS, In 1991, Ann Stepan took office as a member of the
3 Illinois House of Representatives, serving the 7th
4 Representative District for one term; she co-sponsored the Lead
5 Poisoning Prevention Act of 1992 and supported important
6 legislation for family leave; her strong advocacy for female
7 candidates wove into her appointment to the House; the election
8 of Dawn Clark Netsch as Comptroller in 1990, the first woman
9 elected to statewide office and a trailblazer for female
10 candidates in Illinois, led to a vacancy that Ann filled ably
11 and with devotion to her constituents; and

12 WHEREAS, Ann Stepan worked to help elect Democratic
13 candidates across the nation; in 1988, she was elected to
14 Illinois' Democratic National Committee delegation and served
15 as an Illinois delegate to the 2000 Democratic National
16 Convention; and

17 WHEREAS, Ann was a strong devotee of the arts, serving as a
18 Trustee of the Museum of Contemporary Art in Chicago and
19 collector of modern art; a devout Catholic, Ann was an active
20 member of Saint Clement Parish and instrumental in leading the
21 fundraising effort for needed church renovations; therefore,
22 be it

1 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
2 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
3 mourn the passing of Ann Stepan, and extend our sincere
4 condolences to her family, friends, and all who knew and loved
5 her; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
7 presented to the family of Ann Stepan as an expression of our
8 deepest sympathy.