



HR0600

LRB099 12838 MST 36656 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Dr. Ed Hightower retires from his position as
3 Superintendent of Edwardsville Community Unit School District
4 7 as of July 1, 2015; and

5 WHEREAS, Dr. Hightower became Superintendent of District 7
6 in 1996; and

7 WHEREAS, During his tenure as Superintendent, Dr.
8 Hightower has fostered the growth of District 7 from 5,000
9 students to over 7,000 and has developed it into one of the top
10 school districts in the State of Illinois--academically,
11 athletically, and in the performing arts; and

12 WHEREAS, Dr. Hightower has supervised over \$160 million in
13 school construction; and

14 WHEREAS, From 2009 to 2010, Dr. Hightower raised over \$3
15 million in private donations to construct a wrestling center;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, From 2012 to 2013, Dr. Hightower raised over \$1
18 million in private donations toward the Technology in the 21st
19 Century Classroom Initiative; and

1 WHEREAS, From 2013 to 2014, Dr. Hightower raised over \$5
2 million in private donations to construct an aquatic center
3 with an Olympic-sized swimming pool; and

4 WHEREAS, Dr. Hightower's collaborative work with Lewis &
5 Clark Community College helped build a joint-use, \$23 million
6 facility for both Edwardsville High School and Lewis & Clark
7 Community College; and

8 WHEREAS, Dr. Hightower's educational awards include: the
9 Illinois Distinguished Principals Award in 1989, the Who's Who
10 of American Educators in 1992, the Illinois Principal of the
11 Year Award in 1993, and the National Distinguished Principals
12 Award in 1993; and

13 WHEREAS, Dr. Hightower's service awards include: the
14 Elijah P. Lovejoy Human Rights Award in 1990, the Illinois
15 Jaycees 10 Outstanding Young Persons Award in 1990, and the
16 Trails West Distinguished Citizen of the Year in 2007; he was
17 named to the Southern Illinois University Edwardsville Alumni
18 Hall of Fame in 2012; and

19 WHEREAS, Dr. Hightower has served as Trustee on 4 different
20 boards, including: the Lewis and Clark Community College Board
21 with 20 years of service, the St. Anthony Hospital Board with
22 18 years of service, the Edwardsville Rotary Club Board with 19

1 years of service, and the Southern Illinois University Board of
2 Trustees with 12 years of service, where he helped facilitate
3 SIUE's promotion to an NCAA Division I sports program; and

4 WHEREAS, Dr. Hightower has received a bachelor's,
5 master's, and doctorate degree in education administration;
6 his education, experience, and dedication to the people of
7 Edwardsville has enabled him to advance the lives of children
8 and propel his community forward for over 19 years; and

9 WHEREAS, The State of Illinois and Edwardsville Community
10 Unit School District 7 are fortunate to have had Dr. Hightower
11 serve as Superintendent; 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 recognize Dr. Ed Hightower for the outstanding achievements and
15 contributions he has made to Edwardsville Community Unit School
16 District 7; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
18 presented to Dr. Hightower and Edwardsville Community Unit
19 School District 7 as a symbol of our respect and esteem.