



HR1431

LRB099 23498 GRL 50967 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to honor David Owen for his many
4 accomplishments as Mayor of the Village of South Chicago
5 Heights; and

6 WHEREAS, David Owen was born on April 15, 1940, to Oral and
7 Irene Owen; he married June Owen on June 23, 1961 and has
8 resided in South Chicago Heights for 53 years; and

9 WHEREAS, David Owen attended Ledford Elementary School,
10 graduated from Harrisburg High School and Prairie State
11 College, and was honorably discharged from the United States
12 Army; and

13 WHEREAS, David Owen and his wife are the proud parents of
14 April, Scott, Erika, and Yvette, and the devoted grandparents
15 of Allison, Charles, Benjamin, Katelyn, Micah, Lucas, and
16 Dominic; and

17 WHEREAS, David Owen retired after 30 years of service from
18 National Chemsearch, four years of service with the Village of
19 Brookfield, and 42 years of service with the Village of South
20 Chicago Heights; and

1 WHEREAS, David Owen began his political career by serving
2 on the Bloom Township Youth Committee Advisory Board from 1973
3 to 1979; on January 6, 1975, he was appointed to serve as a
4 South Chicago Heights Trustee to fill an unexpired term; after
5 serving as a Trustee for 14 years, he ran for Mayor and was
6 elected on April 4, 1989; and

7 WHEREAS, David Owen served as the 12th Village President
8 and was elected to an unprecedented seven terms as Village
9 President; under his guidance, many committees and programs
10 were formed to enhance the standard of living of the residents
11 of South Chicago Heights, including the construction of the
12 Public Safety Center, the Veterans Memorial Mound, and the
13 Senior Center Pavilion, the connection of the Village to a Lake
14 Michigan water supply, and the establishment of the Courtesy
15 Car Program for Seniors; and

16 WHEREAS, In 1991, David Owen was named a member of "Who's
17 Who in Local Government"; he was voted "Best Mayor" for two
18 consecutive years; he was also the recipient of the 2008
19 Excellence in Government Award from the Illinois Crime
20 Commission; and

21 WHEREAS, In 1997, David Owen was appointed to serve as the
22 Vice President of the Illinois Municipal League; he served as
23 president of the South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association

1 and on the Executive Council of the Mayors of the Chicago Area
2 Transportation Study; and

3 WHEREAS, In September 2013, the South Chicago Heights
4 Village Board voted unanimously to rename the Village Hall the
5 "David L. Owen Municipal Building" in honor of his service; on
6 September 6, 2016, he celebrated the dedication of the new
7 Public Safety Center; and

8 WHEREAS, David Owen will retire from public office on
9 October 3, 2016; therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
11 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
12 designate September 30, 2016 as "David L. Owen Day" in the
13 State of Illinois in honor of David Owen in recognition of his
14 dedicated service; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
16 presented to David Owen as a symbol of our esteem and respect.