

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are pleased to recognize milestone
4 achievements in the lives of citizens of the State of
5 Illinois; and

6 WHEREAS, Rabbi Ellen Dreyfus of B'Nai Yehuda Beth Sholom
7 in Homewood will assume the presidency of the Chicago Board
8 of Rabbis on May 16, 2001; and

9 WHEREAS, Rabbi Ellen Dreyfus will serve a two year term
10 as president of the Chicago Board which represents Reform,
11 Conservative, Reconstructionist, and Orthodox rabbis across
12 Chicago and the suburbs; she is believed to be the first
13 female president of a rabbinical board in the five largest
14 cities populated by Jewish citizens; and

15 WHEREAS, In 1979, Rabbi Ellen Dreyfus was ordained as the
16 first female rabbi in the State of Illinois; she served in
17 congregations in Michigan and Kankakee before becoming rabbi
18 of Congregation Beth Sholom in 1987; after the congregation
19 merged with Reform synagogue B'Nai Yehuda in Homewood in
20 1998, Rabbi Ellen Dreyfus became rabbi of the merged
21 congregations which include about 300 families; and

22 WHEREAS, Rabbi Ellen Dreyfus will also serve as a member
23 of the Council of Religious Leaders of Metropolitan Chicago
24 which includes members from the Catholic, Anglican,
25 Protestant, and Orthodox faiths; therefore, be it

26 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
27 NINETY-SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
28 we congratulate Rabbi Ellen Dreyfus of B'Nai Yehuda Beth
29 Sholom for being the first woman to achieve the position of
30 president of the Chicago Board of Rabbis; and be it further

31 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be

1 presented to Rabbi Ellen Dreyfus as an expression of our
2 esteem.