

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois General Assembly are
3 pleased to honor the achievements of distinguished Illinois
4 citizens; and

5 WHEREAS, Edward A. Brennan, of Burr Ridge, has had a long
6 and distinguished career in the world of business, starting
7 in 1956 as a retail clerk selling men's furnishings in a
8 Sears Roebuck and Co. store and rising through the ranks to
9 become chief executive officer and the eleventh chairman of
10 Sears until his retirement from the company in 1995; and

11 WHEREAS, Edward A. Brennan has served the business
12 community in a number of other capacities, including as a
13 member of the boards of Morgan Stanley Dean Witter & Co., the
14 Allstate Corporation, the AMR Corporation, the Minnesota
15 Mining and Manufacturing Company, Excelon Corporation, and
16 McDonald's Corporation; and

17 WHEREAS, Edward A. Brennan has also willingly shared his
18 expertise in business by serving on the President's Export
19 Council, the Business Council, the New York Stock Exchange
20 Listed Company Advisory Committee, the Business Roundtable,
21 the Conference Board, the Business Advisory Council of the
22 Chicago Urban League, and the Chicago Council on Foreign
23 Relations; and

24 WHEREAS, Edward A. Brennan has long been a model leader
25 in civic affairs, for example by serving as chairman of the
26 Board of Governors of the United Way of America, as Chairman
27 of the Board of Trustees of DePaul University and of
28 Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, as well as
29 serving on the board of Emory University, the Big Shoulders
30 Fund, and numerous other nonprofit organizations; and

31 WHEREAS, Edward A. Brennan remains deeply engaged in the

1 life of his community, continuing to lead his contemporaries
2 in serving urgent human needs, and exemplifying a spirit of
3 civic involvement by serving on the board of the Chicago
4 Museum of Science and Industry and as current chairman of the
5 board of Rush Presbyterian-St. Luke's Medical Center; and

6 WHEREAS, Edward A. Brennan has received numerous honors
7 and awards for his service, including: Doctor of Humane
8 Letters degree, DePaul University (1986); the Lyman J. Gage
9 Founders Award for Outstanding Civic Achievement, Civic
10 Federation of Chicago (1987); Business Leadership Award,
11 DePaul University (1988); the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
12 Excellence in Leadership award from the Minority Economic
13 Resources Corporation (1994); the Visionary Award from the
14 Boys and Girls Clubs of Chicago, which also established the
15 Edward A. Brennan Youth Leadership Program in recognition of
16 Mr. Brennan's "outstanding leadership in corporate America
17 and ongoing support of the group's clubs in Greater Chicago"
18 (1994); the Helen Keller Achievement Award of the American
19 Foundation for the Blind (1995); Constitutional Rights
20 Foundation Chicago Bill of Rights in Action Award (1995); and
21 Laureate of the Chicago Business Hall of Fame, presented by
22 the Junior League of Chicago (1997); and

23 WHEREAS, On April 24, 2002, DePaul University will bestow
24 on Edward A. Brennan its highest honor, the St. Vincent
25 DePaul Award, by which the University recognizes
26 distinguished individuals who exemplify the legacy of St.
27 Vincent DePaul through extraordinary commitment to service,
28 leadership and their community; therefore, be it

29 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
30 NINETY-SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
31 we congratulate Edward A. Brennan for his decades of
32 achievement and service and for his receipt of the St.
33 Vincent DePaul Award; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That this resolution be read at a dinner
2 honoring Edward A. Brennan to be held April 24, 2002 at
3 DePaul University; and be it further

4 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
5 presented to Edward A. Brennan.