

## 1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, In 1778, the American war for independence was  
3 in its third year and the new government was suffering  
4 setbacks; and

5 WHEREAS, The governor of Virginia, Patrick Henry, had  
6 commissioned Lieutenant Colonel Clark with orders stating  
7 that his regiment was to capture Kaskaskia and its  
8 surrounding towns in a series of attacks on the British army  
9 and its Indian allies in order to secure the Illinois  
10 territory and protect Virginia's frontier; and

11 WHEREAS, To aid Lieutenant Colonel Clark in this feat, he  
12 raised 175 men in four different companies; these companies  
13 were commanded by Captain Helm, Captain Bowman, Captain  
14 Harrod, and Captain Montgomery; and

15 WHEREAS, Lieutenant Colonel Clark's army arrived in  
16 Kaskaskia on July 4, 1778; Kaskaskia was captured by Clark's  
17 force within fifteen minutes on the early morning of July 5,  
18 1778; and.

19 WHEREAS, Lt. Colonel Clark sent Captain Joseph Bowman and  
20 his company along with several predominate citizens of  
21 Kaskaskia to capture Cahokia, St. Phillip, and Prairie du  
22 Rocher; and

23 WHEREAS, Upon hearing of the recapture of Vincennes by  
24 the British troops in the Illinois Territory, Lt. Colonel  
25 Clark launched a campaign against Vincennes with 170 men in  
26 his command; and

27 WHEREAS, After the British surrendered and the Illinois  
28 Territory was secured once again, Major Bowman and Captain  
29 Washington, along with their soldiers, fired the six pound  
30 cannon in saluting the victory; and

1           WHEREAS, Though Lt. Colonel Clark and his men have passed  
2 into history, the Illinois Regiment still lives on; the  
3 Captain Joseph Bowman's Illinois Regiment 1778 of today  
4 educates people about Illinois' heritage and history, by  
5 bringing the past to life; and

6           WHEREAS, The Captain Joseph Bowman's Company Illinois  
7 Regiment 1778 gives an authentic portrayal of Revolutionary  
8 War Soldiers and their historic plight at events held in the  
9 Illinois State Capitol, the Illinois State Library, the  
10 Illinois State Fair, and at several Illinois schools; in  
11 addition they re-enact the capture of Fort Massic and Fort  
12 Kaskaskia; and

13           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
14 NINETY-SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
15 we recognize the Captain Joseph Bowman's Company Illinois  
16 Regiment 1778 as the official Revolutionary War Re-enactment  
17 Unit for the State of Illinois; and be it further

18           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
19 presented to Garrick Williams and the other members of the  
20 Captain Joseph Bowman's Company Illinois Regiment 1778 as an  
21 expression of our esteem.