

## 1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

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

5 WHEREAS, It has come to our attention that Marina Rey is  
6 retiring from an outstanding teaching career at Seward  
7 Academy at the end of the 2001 school year; and

8 WHEREAS, Marina D. Rey graduated from Chicago State  
9 University in 1972 with a bachelor's degree in Education with  
10 an emphasis on High School Spanish; she began her teaching  
11 career as a student teacher at Brother Rice High School; and

12 WHEREAS, In September 1972, Mrs. Rey began her teaching  
13 duties at Seward Academy at the new bilingual preschool  
14 parent child center in the Back of the Yards community; she  
15 was assigned to teach three-year-olds; by 1973 she accepted  
16 the position of Parent Coordinator of the Parent Child  
17 Center; and

18 WHEREAS, Mrs. Rey took classes at Northeastern University  
19 and received her Teacher's Certificate to teach  
20 pre-kindergarten through the eighth grade and in 1986,  
21 received her master's degree in Bilingual Education at Loyola  
22 University; and

23 WHEREAS, From 1973 through 1977, Mrs. Rey taught the  
24 parents of the school children English, arts and crafts,  
25 survival skills, child development, and reading and writing  
26 skills; in addition, she was in charge of the festivities for  
27 Children's Day and Cinco de Mayo; and

28 WHEREAS, In 1977, Mrs. Rey served as a seventh and eighth  
29 grade bilingual teacher and also as a bilingual teacher for  
30 the fourth and fifth grades; from 1978 through 1980 she  
31 served as a bilingual preschool teacher as well as

1 kindergarten and first grade during the summer months; and

2 WHEREAS, In 1980, Mrs. Rey returned to her position as  
3 Parent Coordinator where she worked with parents on many  
4 issues which involved the total community; these issues  
5 included the rental of additional space at Holy Cross Church  
6 to relieve the overcrowding at Seward Academy and the  
7 construction of the Cesar Chavez Multicultural Center; and

8 WHEREAS, In 1982, Marina Rey became a Parent Advocate for  
9 Steward Academy because of gang violence in the Seward  
10 neighborhood; in 1983, and with the help of Pat Salmon of the  
11 Back of the Yards Council, she formed the Department of  
12 Community Affairs of Back of the Yards; Mrs. Rey served as  
13 Executive Director of Community Affairs of Back of the Yards  
14 as well as translator for the organization's journal, El  
15 Periodico; and during her time with the Back of the Yards  
16 Council, she has been an integral part of the success of the  
17 Back of the Yards Ballet Folklorico which has been vital in  
18 giving hundreds of children an alternative to gangs; and

19 WHEREAS, In 1986, Marina Rey organized the parents to  
20 help support the Seward teachers in their endeavors to return  
21 to school with a fair raise; and

22 WHEREAS, Marina Rey has served as a local school council  
23 member since 1987, representing the teachers and working as a  
24 liaison with the parents; and

25 WHEREAS, Since 1980, Marina Rey has continued her duties  
26 as the Parent-Community liaison as well as continuing her  
27 service as a bilingual teacher of all grades at Seward  
28 Academy; and

29 WHEREAS, Marina Rey is supported by her loving and very  
30 proud family who include her recently deceased husband, Jesus  
31 Rey, and her children Jesse Rey and Gabriel Rey; therefore,

1 be it

2 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
3 NINETY-SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
4 we congratulate Marina Rey on her retirement after nearly 30  
5 years of service as a bilingual teacher and Parent-Community  
6 liaison at Seward School and we wish her well in all of her  
7 future endeavors; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
9 presented to Marina Rey as an expression of our esteem.