

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to express their sincere condolences to
4 the family and friends of former Illinois State
5 Representative, Clyde Lee Choate, who passed away on October
6 5, 2001; and

7 WHEREAS, Mr. Choate represented Union County in the
8 Illinois General Assembly for 30 years, where he vigorously
9 fought for the interests of Southern Illinois; and

10 WHEREAS, Clyde Lee Choate was born in West Frankfort,
11 Illinois on June 28, 1920, one of 12 children of a coal
12 miner, and lived most of his life in Anna, Illinois; and

13 WHEREAS, During World War II, Mr. Choate entered the
14 United States Army as a Private and left with the rank of
15 Staff Sergeant, having refused a battlefield promotion; he
16 participated in the invasions of North Africa, Italy, France,
17 and Germany, and won numerous citations for bravery including
18 the Congressional Medal of Honor for his single-handed attack
19 that destroyed a German tank; and

20 WHEREAS, On his return home, Mr. Choate married Madonna
21 Rose in Carbondale in 1947, the same year he won a seat in
22 the Illinois House, which he held for the next 30 years; as a
23 Representative, Mr. Choate championed issues such as funding
24 for mental health programs and for Southern Illinois
25 University; he was selected to serve as both majority and
26 minority leader during his tenure in the House of
27 Representatives; and

28 WHEREAS, The passing of Clyde Lee Choate will be deeply
29 felt by all who knew and loved him, especially his wife,
30 Madonna; his daughters, Elizabeth Ellen Wood and Kim Hughey;
31 his sisters, Creta Yates, Dortha Ballance, and Ethel Marie

1 Marlow; his brother, Thomas Choate; his grandchildren; and
2 his friends and former colleagues in the Illinois House of
3 Representatives; therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
5 NINETY-SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
6 we mourn, along with all who knew him, the death of former
7 Illinois legislator Clyde Lee Choate; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
9 presented to the family of Clyde Lee Choate with our sincere
10 condolences.