

## 1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Former Illinois and Chicago resident, Catherine  
3 A. Bertini, has lead the United Nations World Food Program  
4 (WFP) with distinction as Executive Director since 1992; and

5 WHEREAS, Serving as the Chief Executive Officer of the  
6 world's largest humanitarian organization and the leader in  
7 providing aid in emergencies such as those in Afghanistan,  
8 Kosovo, North Korea, and the Horn of Africa, Ms. Bertini has  
9 managed the work of emergency, refugee, and development food  
10 aid operations in 83 countries around the world; and

11 WHEREAS, As the WFP Executive Director, Ms. Bertini is an  
12 Under Secretary General of the United Nations, the first  
13 American and first female to lead the WFP; and

14 WHEREAS, During her 10-year tenure at the WFP, Ms.  
15 Bertini raised \$15 billion in voluntary contributions,  
16 allowing 31 million tons of food to be shipped to the hungry  
17 poor around the world; and

18 WHEREAS, Ms. Bertini has made a very significant  
19 contribution in raising awareness and arousing action in  
20 response to the needs of the hungry poor, particularly in  
21 working to close the "gender gap" in Afghanistan, where the  
22 WFP created bakeries run by women and supported school-based  
23 feeding programs; and

24 WHEREAS, Prior to her appointment as Executive Director  
25 of the WFP by the Secretary General of the United Nations,  
26 Ms. Bertini served as the Assistant Secretary of the United  
27 States Department of Agriculture from 1989 to 1992,  
28 responsible for food assistance programs, including Food  
29 Stamps, school breakfast and lunch programs, and the Women,  
30 Infants and Children (WIC) Program; and

31 WHEREAS, Ms. Bertini began her distinguished federal

1 government career as the Acting Assistant Secretary of the  
2 United States Department of Health and Human Services,  
3 responsible for managing and developing the nation's policy  
4 for the (former) Aid to Families with Dependent Children  
5 program, as well as welfare reform, child support  
6 enforcement, refugee resettlement and community services; and

7 WHEREAS, During her residency in Illinois and Chicago,  
8 Ms. Bertini served as the Manager of Public Policy and State  
9 and Local Public Affairs for Container Corporation of  
10 America, a member of the Illinois Human Rights Commission, a  
11 fellow at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government,  
12 and the President of the 43rd Ward Republican Party under  
13 Committeeman Ron Gidwitz; and

14 WHEREAS, Ms. Bertini will complete the maximum 10-year,  
15 two-term tenure as Executive Director of the WFP in April,  
16 2002, completing a remarkable and distinguished career  
17 increasing awareness, and financial and food contributions,  
18 as well as health and nutrition to the hungry poor of the  
19 world; therefore be it

20 RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
21 NINETY-SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
22 we join in saluting the important work and tenure of former  
23 Illinois and Chicago resident, Ms. Catherine A. Bertini, in  
24 her outstanding contributions as the Executive Director of  
25 the United Nations World Food Program; and be it further

26 RESOLVED That a suitable copy of this preamble and  
27 resolution be presented to Ms. Catherine A. Bertini as a  
28 symbol of our heartfelt appreciation for her significant  
29 humanitarian work at the WFP in the last 10 years and our  
30 very best wishes for her continued good health and success.