



Introduced Version

**HOUSE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. _____**

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging the Indiana Department of Transportation to rename a portion of State Road 56 from Haysville to Paoli the "William Alfred 'Bill' Cook Highway" in memory of William Alfred "Bill" Cook and to honor his many contributions to the state of Indiana and the world.

Ubelhor, Heaton, Davisson

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on

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A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging the Indiana Department of Transportation to rename a portion of State Road 56 from Haysville to Paoli the "William Alfred 'Bill' Cook Highway" in memory of William Alfred "Bill" Cook and to honor his many contributions to the state of Indiana and the world.

Whereas, Graduating from Northwestern University with a degree in Biology, Bill Cook had planned to go on to medical school but was drafted into the Army, where he served two years as a surgical technician;

Whereas, Bill Cook and his wife, Gayle, founded Cook Incorporated in 1963 in the spare bedroom of their apartment in Bloomington, and it became the first American company to introduce to United States physicians the matched set of needle, wire guide, and catheter needed to perform the percutaneous vascular entry procedure known as the Seldinger technique;

Whereas, This revolutionary, nonsurgical technique created the medical science of interventional medicine, virtually eliminating exploratory surgery and opening new vistas for physicians to diagnose and treat patients in a minimally invasive manner with greatly reduced trauma and risk;

Whereas, Cook Incorporated and other Cook Group companies have steadfastly adhered to a corporate code of ethics that puts patient needs first and pursued new medical technologies not solely for profit, but also with the broader goal of improving health and helping people live healthier



lives through Cook technologies;

Whereas, The Cook Group companies have grown continually for 50 years in both revenue and employment, expanding from just two employees in 1963 to more than 11,000 worldwide;

Whereas, Today, it is the world's largest family-owned medical device manufacturer;

Whereas, As it grew, the company evolved from serving a single medical specialty and manufacturing a handful of products for United States sale into a global entity selling more than 16,000 different products in 135 countries;

Whereas, Millions of patients have had their diseases treated, have had their lives extended, and have seen new life created through the innovation and ingenuity of Cook Group's skilled and highly dedicated employees;

Whereas, The company contributes significantly through investment and stable economic growth to each community where Cook Group expands, greatly and directly enhancing numerous communities in Indiana where Cook Group businesses are located, including Bloomington, Spencer, West Lafayette, West Baden, French Lick, and Indianapolis;

Whereas, These businesses today employ more than 6,200 Hoosiers and help make Indiana a national leader in the growing life sciences industry;

Whereas, Cook Group has steadfastly supported efforts aimed at improving public health and access to health care in Indiana through its sustained support for the YMCA in Monroe County, through contributions to build an angiography lab at Bloomington Hospital, and generous support of the Monroe County chapter of Volunteers in Medicine, which provides health care to low-income patients in the south-central Indiana region;

Whereas, Cook Group passionately pursues a monumental goal of sustainable historic preservation and renovation, which is a key philosophy of the Cook family and Cook



Group;

Whereas, Cook Group's generosity has led to the restoration of such historic landmarks in Indiana as the West Baden Springs Hotel and French Lick Springs Hotel, Old Centrum Church, Tivoli Theater, Yoho General Store, Beck's Mill, Cedar Farms, Showers Plaza, Grant Street Inn, Fountain Square Mall, Cochran House, Colonel William Jones House, Graham Plaza, Illinois Central Railroad Freight Depot, Laconia General Store, and the Hay Press;

Whereas, These restoration projects all have been done with the goal of returning these properties to a state of economic sustainability, further enhancing the economic base of the communities in which they are located;

Whereas, Cook Group contributed enormously to the musical education and well-being of talented youth through its generous support of the Star of Indiana Drum and Bugle Corps, which won the Drum Corps International World Championship in 1991;

Whereas, Moving beyond the competitive performance field, Cook Group and its associates within Star of Indiana created a unique, stage-based musical concept, BLAST!, that won both Tony and Emmy awards and brought international acclaim to the musical and theatrical expertise and talent found within the Hoosier state;

Whereas, The Cook family and Cook Group companies have donated generously to support Indiana's institutions of higher learning, including numerous capital construction projects;

Whereas, At Indiana University, these donations include Cook Hall and the William and Gayle Cook Music Library; for Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, Cook Group donated the stadium lights, a bioresearch greenhouse, and other improvements; and

Whereas, In addition, both Bill Cook and Cook Group Chairman Steve Ferguson have generously donated their time, energy, and talents to serve as trustees at Indiana



University, and other senior Cook Group executives have held similar posts at other Indiana colleges and universities, helping lead Hoosier scholarly institutions to an ever-higher position of academic achievement and excellence: Therefore,

*Be it resolved by the House of Representatives
of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana,
the Senate concurring:*

1 SECTION 1. That the Indiana General Assembly urges the Indiana
2 Department of Transportation to rename a section of State Road 56
3 from Haysville to Paoli the "William Alfred 'Bill' Cook Highway" to
4 honor and remember his many accomplishments and contributions to
5 Indiana and the world.

6 SECTION 2. That the Principal Clerk of the House of
7 Representatives transmit a copy of this resolution to the commissioner
8 of the Indiana Department of Transportation, Gayle Cook, Carl Cook,
9 and the leadership and employees of Cook Group.

