

House Resolution No. 434

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives always welcome the opportunity to acknowledge milestone events in the histories of Show-Me State businesses that have proven down through the years to be exemplary components of the economic foundations of local communities and neighborhoods; and

Whereas, Black River Electric Cooperative was established as W.R.I. Electric Cooperative on February 25, 1938, by residents in the towns of Annapolis, Centerville, Piedmont and their environs; and

Whereas, on February 8, 2008, Black River Electric Cooperative will enhance its already impressive record of accomplishment when it receives the 2007 Business of the Year award from the Fredericktown Chamber of Commerce at that organization's annual banquet; and

Whereas, Black River Electric Cooperative began with a \$194,000 loan from the federal Rural Electrification Administration to build 144 miles of distribution line and enjoyed slow growth until the building boom that took place after World War II in the 1950s; and

Whereas, Black River Electric Cooperative now serves more than 25,000 members and has more than 4,100 miles of line in a ten-county service area that had been deemed "unprofitable to serve" by for-profit, investor-owned utilities; and

Whereas, run by a Board of Directors and a General Manager/Chief Executive Officer, Black River Electric Cooperative owns \$79 million in assets and generates \$27 million in annual income:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the well-deserved selection of Black River Electric Cooperative for the Business of the Year award from the Fredericktown Chamber of Commerce and to convey to all of those involved this legislative body's most heartfelt best wishes for continued success in life for many more years to come; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution in honor of Black River Electric Cooperative.

Offered by Speaker Rod Jetton
District No. 156

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives,
Ninety-fourth General Assembly, Second Regular Session,
do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House
Resolution No. 434, adopted February 6, 2008.

Rod Jetton, Speaker