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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to recognize the Freeport School District
4 Orchestra Department as it celebrates the 150th anniversary of
5 its founding during the 2014-2015 school year; and

6 WHEREAS, The Freeport Orchestra began when Frances Augusta
7 Rosebrugh was hired to teach mathematics in Freeport schools;
8 in 1864, she was asked to form an orchestra to perform for
9 plays, operettas, and commencement exercises; her first
10 orchestra consisted of 2 violins, 1 cornet, 1 clarinet, and 1
11 pianist; and

12 WHEREAS, Throughout the years, the Freeport Orchestra has
13 had 20 directors who have instructed countless students and
14 developed art connoisseurs, active amateurs, professional
15 musicians, and free-lance performers; and

16 WHEREAS, The Freeport Orchestra is the oldest continuously
17 operating school orchestra in the nation; and

18 WHEREAS, The Freeport Orchestra is currently under the
19 direction of Freeport Orchestra alumnus Brandon Lamm and Tracy
20 (nee Klessig) Pallesen; and

1 WHEREAS, Currently, the Freeport Orchestra has over 200
2 students in grades 5 through 12 participating in a strong,
3 historic program; each year, many students participate in
4 festivals, high school musicals, school concerts, community
5 orchestras, and small ensembles; and

6 WHEREAS, A year of celebration will culminate with a 150th
7 anniversary concert on May 9, 2015 in the Jeannette Lloyd
8 Theater; therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
10 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
11 recognize the Freeport School District Orchestra Department as
12 it celebrates the 150th anniversary of its founding during the
13 2014-2015 school year; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
15 presented to the Freeport Orchestra as an expression of our
16 esteem and respect.