



HR0403

LRB104 13927 ECR 26825 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to congratulate the Lincoln-Way Community
4 High School District 210 girls wrestling co-op team on winning
5 the 2024-2025 Illinois Wrestling Coaches and Officials
6 Association's (IWCOA) Girls Dual Team State Championship; and

7 WHEREAS, The Lincoln-Way girls wrestling co-op team, the
8 district's first, operates through Lincoln-Way Central High
9 School in New Lenox and is also open to female students
10 attending Lincoln-Way West High School in New Lenox and
11 Lincoln-Way East High School in Frankfort; and

12 WHEREAS, The inaugural Lincoln-Way girls wrestling co-op
13 team won its first-ever IWCOA Girls Dual Team State
14 Championship on December 28, 2024, defeating six teams in the
15 quarterfinals, including Hoffman Estates High School in the
16 semi-final and Schaumburg High School in the championship, and
17 this event marked the first time the State has held a
18 dual-format girls team state championship wrestling
19 tournament; and

20 WHEREAS, The members of the Lincoln-Way girls wrestling
21 co-op team achieved individual successes during the 2024-2025
22 season, including Illinois High School Association (IHSA)

1 regional champion and third place State finisher Zoe Dempsey,
2 IHSA regional champions and State qualifiers Sadie Sparks and
3 Riley Cooney, State qualifier Ella Giertuga, and IHSA regional
4 champions Emily Peyton and Bailey Mitchell; and

5 WHEREAS, The Lincoln-Way girls wrestling co-op team is led
6 by Coach Josh Napier, who has worked as a special services
7 teacher and coach for Lincoln-Way Central High School for the
8 last six years; and

9 WHEREAS, Coach Napier has 13 years of coaching experience,
10 including at Oak Forest High School and Hickory Creek Middle
11 School, where he established the middle school's wrestling
12 program and served as its first head coach; he has served as
13 the head freshman wrestling coach at Lincoln-Way Central High
14 School for the past six years, and he has been actively
15 recruiting female students to join the girls wrestling
16 program; and

17 WHEREAS, Coach Napier has taken the lead in working with
18 the Lincoln-Way girls wrestling co-op team as an extension of
19 the boys team over the years, guiding the girls team to three
20 IHSA State Tournaments and, just at Lincoln-Way Central High
21 School alone, increasing the number of girl wrestlers from two
22 to 15 over the past four years; and

1 WHEREAS, Girls wrestling is currently the fastest-growing
2 high school sport in the country, with an estimated 50,000
3 athletes competing across the nation; and

4 WHEREAS, The Lincoln-Way girls wrestling co-op team
5 concluded its season with a perfect 19-0 record; therefore, be
6 it

7 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
8 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
9 we congratulate Coach Josh Napier and all members of the
10 Lincoln-Way Community High School District 210 girls wrestling
11 co-op team on a successful 2024-2025 season and for winning
12 the 2025 Illinois Wrestling Coaches and Officials Association
13 (IWCOA) Girls Dual Team State Championship.