



SR0855

LRB104 22241 ECR 38573 r

1 SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate wish to
3 congratulate John Barrett on the occasion of his retirement
4 after many dedicated years as a teacher; and

5 WHEREAS, John Barrett has devoted his life to education,
6 mentorship, coaching, and service to students, colleagues,
7 family, and community; and

8 WHEREAS, John Barrett, the son of Jack and Nora Barrett,
9 was born in Toledo, Ohio on June 24, 1965; he was the eldest of
10 four siblings, and he was raised in Bensenville; and

11 WHEREAS, From an early age, John Barrett was known for his
12 remarkable work ethic and dedication, qualities recognized by
13 his high school basketball coach when he was the only senior to
14 play on the team; and

15 WHEREAS, John Barrett received a degree in business
16 education from Eastern Illinois University, where he also met
17 his future wife, Nancy; and

18 WHEREAS, John Barrett's teaching career included service
19 in Meredosia, at Our Lady of the Angels School in Chicago, at
20 St. Frances Cabrini Parish in Springfield, and ultimately at

1 Pleasant Plains Middle School, where he left an enduring mark;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, John Barrett's coaching journey reflected
4 perseverance and excellence, culminating in two state
5 championships in basketball; and

6 WHEREAS, John Barrett became a pillar of the school
7 community at Pleasant Plains Middle School as an English
8 teacher, coach of basketball, baseball, and scholastic bowl,
9 sponsor of the Beta Club and the Green Team, participant in
10 school plays and talent shows, and, above all, a trusted
11 mentor who taught young people not only academic skills but
12 how to become thoughtful, better people; and

13 WHEREAS, John Barrett is a devoted family man whose wife,
14 Nancy, has long been his steadfast partner and greatest
15 support; together, they have raised four children, Katie,
16 Angie, Brian (Mandy), and Nick, and have welcomed the joy of a
17 growing family, including their grandson, Rowan; and

18 WHEREAS, John Barrett's personal discipline and commitment
19 to healthy living have reflected the same determination that
20 marked his professional life; after a serious health event in
21 2018 and a Parkinson's diagnosis in early 2024, he has
22 continued to meet life with courage, openness, and grace,

1 inspiring many through his example; and

2 WHEREAS, The true measure of John Barrett's career is
3 found in the countless students he encouraged, the families he
4 supported, the colleagues he uplifted, and the community he
5 strengthened, leaving an enduring legacy more valuable than
6 any material reward; therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL
8 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we congratulate John
9 Barrett on the occasion of his retirement as a teacher, and we
10 express sincere appreciation for his extraordinary years of
11 service, his steadfast devotion to students and family, and
12 the lasting example he has set for all who have had the
13 privilege to know him; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That we wish John Barrett's retirement be filled
15 with health, happiness, and the many blessings he has so
16 richly earned; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
18 presented to John Barrett as a symbol of our esteem and
19 respect.