



HR0036

LRB101 06851 ALS 51882 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to congratulate Phillip E. Paeltz on his
4 success as a founder and the first Headmaster of Governor
5 French Academy; and

6 WHEREAS, Phillip Paeltz was born in Cincinnati, Ohio to
7 Edward and Nancy Paeltz; he spent his early years in Ripley,
8 Ohio, and moved with his family to Alton when his father was
9 hired by Laclede Steel; he graduated from Alton High School; he
10 attended Southern Illinois University, where he received both a
11 bachelor's degree and a master's degree; and

12 WHEREAS, A student of Kaid Friedel, Myron Bloom, and Ward
13 Fearn, Phillip Paeltz originally trained to be a French
14 hornist; in 1969, he graduated with a degree in music
15 performance and education; by the age of 19, he had performed
16 with the St. Louis Symphony, at the Cleveland Orchestra's
17 Blossom Music Festival, and with several Broadway touring
18 companies; he fulfilled his military service by playing in the
19 United States Air Force bands, including at Scott Air Force
20 Base; in recent years, he has played the French horn as a
21 volunteer with the St. Louis and the Belleville Philharmonic
22 orchestras and also conducted the Belleville Philharmonic; and

1 WHEREAS, In 1973, Phillip Paeltz's music career was
2 curtailed by an illness; he then began teaching at Belleville
3 East High School and earned a Master's Degree in English with a
4 major in Theatre; he maintains that the theatre training he
5 received is the best preparation for anyone pursuing a teaching
6 career; disillusion with public school education and motivated
7 by his own dedication to prepare students for higher education,
8 he became a part of the creation of the Governor French
9 Academy; and

10 WHEREAS, Phillip Paeltz was one of seven people who
11 organized and started the Governor French Academy; teachers at
12 the Academy choose to teach college-preparatory academics in
13 the manner and the principles utilized by successful music
14 conservatories; this guided practice leads to a mastery of
15 skills, and a mastery of skills leads to a conceptual
16 understanding; and

17 WHEREAS, Phillip Paeltz attributes the success of Governor
18 French Academy to its "refusal to improve," referring to the
19 perpetual changes in educational practices in this country;
20 Governor French Academy has sustained itself and its students
21 by continuing to teach hard work, basic skills, and
22 perseverance; the Academy has "not improved itself" into the
23 position of being one of the best schools in the United States;
24 and

1 WHEREAS, Phillip Paeltz has served as Headmaster of
2 Governor French Academy since 1983; he currently resides in
3 Lebanon with his wife, Myra Blackmon, in a house previously
4 owned by former Illinois Governor Augustus French; he is the
5 brother of Tim (Theresa) Paeltz and the uncle to Rosemary;
6 therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
8 HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
9 we congratulate Phillip E. Paeltz on his success as the founder
10 and first Headmaster of Governor French Academy, and we honor
11 his leadership; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
13 presented to Phillip Paeltz as an expression of our esteem and
14 respect.