



HR0036

LRB101 06851 ALS 51882 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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

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

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

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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.