



HR0471

LRB101 12896 ALS 61731 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Gene
4 "Coach Ping" Pingatore of Westchester, who passed away on June
5 26, 2019; and

6 WHEREAS, Gene Pingatore was born to Frank and Annette
7 Pingatore on October 12, 1936; and

8 WHEREAS, Gene Pingatore was the coach of the St. Joseph
9 High School basketball team, the Chargers; the most successful
10 coach in Illinois high school basketball history, he had a
11 record of 1035-383 in 50 years; he coached NBA stars Isiah
12 Thomas and Evan Turner and three McDonald's All-Americans,
13 Isaiah Thomas, Daryl Thomas, and Daryl Cunningham; he had a
14 starring role in the 1994 documentary Hoop Dreams; and

15 WHEREAS, At the time of his passing, Gene Pingatore was
16 coaching at the Riverside-Brookfield shootout and was planning
17 to start his 51st season at the helm of the Chargers'
18 basketball program; under his guidance, the Chargers were one
19 of the state's best teams, winning two state championships,
20 advancing to the state finals six times, and winning 13
21 sectionals; in 2017, he was honored with a massive celebration
22 by the school when he won his 1,000th game; and

1 WHEREAS, As a coach, Gene Pingatore valued "the
2 relationships that were developed"; according to the IHSA
3 Executive Director, "the number of students he impacted during
4 his career is immeasurable"; and

5 WHEREAS, Gene Pingatore was the loving father of Lisa
6 (Mike) Crispo, the proud grandfather of Erin, Kelli, and Jack,
7 the beloved fiance of Jill Oakley, the proud uncle of Frank
8 (Kristin) Kasprzak, Nick Kasprzak, and the late Robert E.
9 Kasprzak, the loving son of the late Annette and Frank, the
10 dear brother of the late Sandra, and the brother-in-law of
11 Robert Kasprzak; therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
13 HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
14 we mourn the passing of Gene "Coach Ping" Pingatore and extend
15 our sincere condolences to his family, friends, and all who
16 knew and loved him; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
18 presented to the family of Gene Pingatore as an expression of
19 our deepest sympathy.