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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois General Assembly are pleased to congratulate the members of the Rosemont Cavaliers Drum & Bugle Corps on the occasion of their 60th anniversary; and

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WHEREAS, The Cavaliers Drum and Bugle Corps were founded in 1948 by Don Warren; he is the only person to ever serve as corps president for the Cavaliers, a role he has filled for 60 consecutive years; when the group was created, it was known as the Boy Scout Troop 111 Drum and Bugle Corps; today, the Cavaliers are sponsored by the village of Rosemont; and

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WHEREAS, The corps songs of the Cavaliers Drum and Bugle Corps are "Over the Rainbow" (since 1951) and "The Corps Song", set to the tune of "Semper Paratus"; the corps cheer or battle cry is "Splooie", the meaning of which is known only to members who have been initiated into the Cavalier brotherhood, a process taking two years to achieve; and

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WHEREAS, The Cavaliers Drum and Bugle Corps has a long history of success in the competitive ranks of Drum Corps International (DCI) as well as the earlier VFW and American Legion Championship years in the 1950s through 1970s; the Cavaliers have won more championships, including Drum Corps

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1 International, VFW, American Legion, and Winter Guard  
2 International championships, and contests than any other drum  
3 and bugle corps in the history of the activity; after winning  
4 the 2006 DCI World Championships, the Cavaliers set a new  
5 record for the most DCI World Championship Titles in a single  
6 decade with an astounding five championships; they are only one  
7 of two junior drum and bugle corps to experience two undefeated  
8 seasons, which they achieved in 1961 and 2002; the Cavaliers  
9 formerly held the record for the most consecutive victories of  
10 any drum and bugle corps, with 63 first place finishes in a row  
11 over three seasons; the Cavaliers also achieved a three-peat in  
12 the winter color guard activity, winning the Winter Guard  
13 International Championship in 1981, 1982, and 1983; and

14 WHEREAS, Since 2001, the Cavaliers have become known within  
15 the drum and bugle activity for their unique conceptual  
16 approach to brass pedagogy, which revolves around establishing  
17 a characteristic tone quality on Concert F and then  
18 transferring the characteristic sound of that note to notes  
19 above and below it, both individually and across the ensemble;  
20 the importance of individual listening and awareness in these  
21 "matching" exercises is stressed to the point where a  
22 mechanical tuner is never used during a summer at the  
23 Cavaliers; and

24 WHEREAS, The Cavaliers Drum and Bugle Corps continues to be

1 an annual selection for the DCI Classic Countdown, a fan picked  
2 repertoire of all drum corps shows from the past; and

3 WHEREAS, The incredible talent of the Cavaliers Drum and  
4 Bugle Corps has garnered the corps a measure of fame; the corps  
5 have played for United States Presidents Harry Truman, Dwight  
6 Eisenhower, John F. Kennedy, and Lyndon Johnson; in 2005,  
7 select members of the corps were chosen to appear on The Oprah  
8 Winfrey Show to portray a college marching band; and

9 WHEREAS, A 60th Anniversary Celebration banquet will be  
10 held on August 3, 2008 in honor of the Cavaliers Drum and Bugle  
11 Corps and its visionary leader; and

12 WHEREAS, The marching designs and fundamental marching  
13 technique of the Cavaliers Drum and Bugle Corps have  
14 revolutionized the marching band and drum corps idiom  
15 throughout the past 60 years; therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
17 NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE  
18 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that we congratulate the members of  
19 the Rosemont Cavaliers Drum & Bugle Corps on the occasion of  
20 their 60th anniversary and wish them continued success and  
21 happiness in the future; and be it further

1           RESOLVED, That we congratulate Don Warren for his 60 years  
2 of dedicated leadership and guidance in mentoring the Rosemont  
3 Cavaliers Drum & Bugle Corps and wish him many more happy years  
4 to come; and be it further

5           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
6 presented to Rosemont Cavaliers Drum & Bugle Corps founder Don  
7 Warren as a symbol of our esteem and respect.