



HR1086

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are pleased to congratulate the citizens of
4 Princeville as they celebrate the town's 175th anniversary; and

5 WHEREAS, Princeville incorporated in Peoria County in
6 1874; Princeville was officially organized decades earlier on
7 June 22, 1837 by William C. Stevens, Benjamin Clark, and Jesse
8 M. McCutchen in an area previously known as Prince's Grove
9 after Daniel Prince, said to be the first European to live
10 among the Native Americans in the area; and

11 WHEREAS, Princeville has a proud military history dating
12 back to the Lucky 13 who served in Company K in the 86th
13 Illinois during the Civil War; Technician 4th Grade Robert E.
14 Ward was awarded a Distinguished Service Cross for
15 extraordinary heroism during World War II for administering
16 first aid and evacuating 15 other soldiers while under enemy
17 fire despite a fractured arm; Captain Lowell Fred Pierce served
18 in Vietnam with honor and was awarded a purple heart, silver
19 star, and 2 bronze stars; Mr. Finch Stowell survived Pearl
20 Harbor and worked for the Department of Defense for 31 years;
21 and

22 WHEREAS, In addition, the Princeville American Legion,

1 Post #248 was established March 11, 1935 and the Veterans of
2 Foreign Wars, Gold Star Post #1255 was chartered July 17, 1952;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Princeville also has a tradition of voluntary
5 service with the Princeville Fire Company No. 1, formed in
6 February, 1889, which evolved into the Akron-Princeville Fire
7 Protection District in 1945; the Akron-Princeville Ambulance
8 Service has operated with volunteers since March 1980; and

9 WHEREAS, Princeville was once a factory town with a long
10 tradition of making lawn sprinklers at L.R. Nelson, spreaders
11 for L.L. Larson and then canning at the Princeville Canning
12 Company, later associated with Joan of Arc, Pillsbury, and now
13 Seneca Foods and is one of the nation's largest producers of
14 canned pumpkin; and

15 WHEREAS, Princeville is the "Peony Capitol of the World"
16 because, in 1937, Mr. Ed Auten introduced over 300 varieties of
17 peonies and received a gold medal from the American Peony
18 Society in 1950; and

19 WHEREAS, Princeville has a long tradition of excellence in
20 education from the days of the one room schoolhouse to the
21 enriched opportunities of the Princeville Academy, which
22 opened prior to the Civil War and then re-opened in 1887, which

1 was followed by the building of a new school in 1908, the
2 construction of the present high school in 1951, and the
3 construction of the present grade school in 1964; one of the
4 finest gymnasiums of its time was built at the old school in
5 1927 and became host to the longest running Boys' Basketball
6 Holiday Tournament in the State of Illinois; and

7 WHEREAS, Princeville will now have 3 parks, including
8 Stevens Square, which was originally platted by founder William
9 Stevens in 1837; Cutter's Grove, named for Dr. Charles Cutter,
10 who deeded his family home to Princeville, and which is now the
11 Lillie M. Evans Memorial Library and once served as a station
12 on the Underground Railroad; and Troutman Park, which was
13 purchased by a resident, Dean Troutman, and named in memory of
14 his late wife, Dorothy (Peggy) Troutman, and which will open in
15 concert with the 175th anniversary; therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
17 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
18 we congratulate the citizens of Princeville as they celebrate
19 the 175th anniversary of their community on June 22, 2012 and
20 wish them the best in the future; and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
22 presented to Sid Stahl, Village President, as a symbol of our
23 esteem.