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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the House of Representatives of the State of Illinois are pleased to recognize citizens who have made outstanding contributions to their community and their state; and

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WHEREAS, For the past 43 years, Janet Ruth (Akers) Bollheimer has been an educator in the State of Illinois; and

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WHEREAS, She graduated from Southern Illinois University in Carbondale in 1963 with a major in home economics; she married Phil Bollheimer in June of 1964, and they have one child, Eddie Bollheimer, and five grandchildren; and

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WHEREAS, She began her teaching career in the fall of 1963 at Wesclin High School in Trenton; she taught home economics at Trenton until 1967; she also taught one year of fourth and fifth grade science and health in addition to her Home Economics classes; and

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WHEREAS, When her husband was drafted into the U.S. Army and sent to Germany, she went with him and taught in the Department of Defense Schools in Kaiserslautern, Germany, from 1968 through 1969, first as a special education teacher and then as a second grade teacher; and

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WHEREAS, Returning to the United States while her husband served in VietNam, she taught fourth grade for a year at Pugh School in Decatur; it happened to be the same school her husband had attended in fourth grade and her co-teacher that year was her husband's former fourth grade teacher; and

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WHEREAS, After her husband finished his tour in the Army they moved to Aviston, where they live today; she taught in the Aviston High School as their home economics teacher until she

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1 retired in 1993 after logging 30 years in the teaching  
2 profession; one of the highlights of her teaching career at  
3 Aviston was successfully encouraging guys to join her food  
4 classes; and

5 WHEREAS, After Mrs. Bollheimer retired in 1993 from Aviston  
6 High School, she went on to become the Even Start coordinator  
7 at the Carlyle Pre-K Program from 1993 to 2000; Even Start  
8 provides high quality literacy programs throughout all 50  
9 states; she began working part-time with Kaskaskia Community  
10 college as the Extension Center Coordinator at Central High  
11 School, and then at Wesclin High School, and finally in several  
12 grade schools in western Clinton County; she continued in that  
13 position until 2000; and

14 WHEREAS, In 1998, she proposed that a full-time Kaskaskia  
15 College Attendance Center be created in Trenton; thanks to her  
16 foresight, the Trenton Attendance Center became a reality and  
17 now makes it possible for more students in that area to further  
18 their education; and

19 WHEREAS, In 2000, she began working at Kaskaskia College  
20 full-time, where she continues today; during her first two  
21 years at Kaskaskia, she matched tutors to learners for the  
22 community literacy program in Centralia; she also worked at  
23 night with family literacy programs at Central City, Breese,  
24 and Damiansville; and

25 WHEREAS, For the past three years she has been the Even  
26 Start Coordinator at Kaskaskia College Centralia and works with  
27 teen moms and their children, teaching GED and parenting; and

28 WHEREAS, Mrs. Bollheimer is retiring on June 30, 2006,  
29 after 43 years of selfless service devoted to education;  
30 besides being a loving parent and grandparent, she enjoys  
31 gardening, doing creative projects, and traveling; therefore,

1 be it

2 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
3 NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
4 we honor Janet Ruth (Akers) Bollheimer for her many years of  
5 service to the State as a devoted educator, providing service  
6 to our most important citizens, our children; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
8 presented to Mrs. Bollheimer as an expression of our respect  
9 and esteem.