



HR1161

LRB097 21883 KXB 70600 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are pleased that the Dennis J. Smith Legacy
4 Foundation will posthumously award its 2012 Caring for the
5 Community Award to Cory Blanchette; and

6 WHEREAS, The Foundation created the Caring for the
7 Community Award to recognize people who serve the greater
8 Kankakee County area with dignity and selflessness, and it is
9 posthumously conferring that award on Cory Blanchette to
10 applaud his service to his students, student-athletes, and the
11 entire Manteno community; and

12 WHEREAS, Cory Blanchette grew up in rural Manteno and
13 graduated from Manteno High School in 1992; he is survived by
14 his wife, Alisa, and his children, Luke, Addison, Brooke, and
15 Kendall; he was the son of Linda Blanchette and the late Ray
16 Blanchette; his siblings are Craig and Carrie; and

17 WHEREAS, He worked as a Union Pipefitter after graduation;
18 in 2006, he started coaching football and wrestling at Manteno
19 and joined the faculty as a special education teacher in 2010;
20 his love of all things Manteno High School was matched only by
21 his devotion to the Chicago Cubs; and

1 WHEREAS, At Manteno High School, he was known for his work
2 ethic, ability to connect with students, and his pursuit of
3 excellence; he was a dedicated teacher and inspired his
4 students and colleagues at the school; he worked hard with his
5 student-athletes to make sure they succeeded in the classroom
6 as well as on the playing field; and

7 WHEREAS, He and his wrestling squad could be found on
8 weekends raking leaves or doing chores for elderly residents;
9 when deadly tornadoes ripped through Joplin, Missouri last
10 spring, his team collected supplies and loaded them onto relief
11 trucks heading south; he was a loved and respected part of the
12 community and is truly missed; therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
14 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
15 we mourn the late Cory Blanchette and extend our sympathies to
16 his family and friends; that we honor him for his service to
17 the community of Manteno; and we thank the Dennis J. Smith
18 Legacy Foundation for posthumously awarding him the 2012 Caring
19 for the Community Award; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
21 presented to the family of Cory Blanchette as a symbol of our
22 respect.