



HR0972

LRB099 16166 GRL 44395 r

1

HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to congratulate and celebrate Coach Dan
4 Rourke on the occasion of his retirement as head football coach
5 at Glenwood High School in Chatham; and

6 WHEREAS, In 1993, Dan Rourke was in the midst of his 12th
7 year teaching and coaching football in Plano, Texas; he earned
8 his master's degree in 1992 from Texas A&M - Commerce and was
9 seeking a head coaching and administrative job in Texas; things
10 quickly changed when his uncle, John Rourke of Chatham, was
11 diagnosed with cancer; Dan made the decision, after consulting
12 with his wife Julie, to move back to Chatham and spend time
13 with his uncle; and

14 WHEREAS, Principal Mike Collins, assistant principal Chuck
15 Hoots, and Superintendent Don Kauerauf among others were
16 instrumental in Dan Rourke's hiring at Glenwood High School; he
17 promised to bring a competitive team to Glenwood within 5
18 years; and

19 WHEREAS, In 1993, Dan Rourke arrived in the inaugural
20 season of the Central State Eight Conference; he retained
21 assistant coach Steve Cox and started building a staff whose
22 core would stay mostly intact during his tenure; he got word

1 that Len Onken was interested in getting back into coaching
2 and, after a phone call was made, Onken was immediately
3 installed as a defensive coordinator; he also sought commitment
4 of the administration, and Superintendent Kauerauf and
5 Principal Collins were instrumental in getting additional
6 coaches added to the staff; and

7 WHEREAS, During Dan Rourke's second season, he brought in
8 Mike Janke and David Hay; during his third year, he brought in
9 Vondel Edgar; all 3 remain on the coaching staff at Glenwood
10 today; and

11 WHEREAS, There have been numerous assistant coaches over
12 the years at Glenwood during the Dan Rourke era, including Mike
13 McGiles, Dan Sheedy, John Hyde, Josh Crossland, Jared Bruner,
14 Keith Moomey, Trevor Lehnem, and Caleb Cox, to name a few; and

15 WHEREAS, Dan Rourke kept his promise to bring a competitive
16 team to Glenwood High School; in just 5 years, Glenwood won the
17 Class 4A State title with a perfect 14-0 record; his teams went
18 on to make 18 playoff appearances in 23 years; Glenwood High
19 School was also the runner-up in Class 5A in 2010 and the
20 program qualified for the State quarterfinals in 1997, 2003,
21 2004, 2011, and 2012; and

22 WHEREAS, After 35 years coaching football, with the last 23

1 as a head coach in the same place, Dan Rourke believes it is
2 time to give someone new a shot to get some new blood in there,
3 shake things up, light it up, and do things a bit different
4 that he may not have thought of; and

5 WHEREAS, Dan Rourke serves as an example of hard work,
6 passion, and dedication; his work throughout his career has
7 benefited the entire Chatham-Glenwood community; therefore, be
8 it

9 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
10 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
11 thank and congratulate Dan Rourke for his many years of service
12 and wish him all the best in his future endeavors; and be it
13 further

14 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
15 presented to Dan Rourke as an expression of our congratulations
16 and appreciation for a job well done.