



HR0976

LRB099 16507 MST 42588 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Stuart  
4 "Stu" Wright of Pinckneyville, who passed away on December 20,  
5 2015; and

6           WHEREAS, Stuart Wright was born in Battle Creek, Michigan  
7 on October 12, 1941 and married Sharon Kay Pursell on June 24,  
8 1961; and

9           WHEREAS, Stuart Wright was deeply involved in the  
10 Pinckneyville community, serving as a board member on the  
11 Pinckneyville Community High School Board; he was instrumental  
12 in the foundation of high school shooting sports in the State  
13 of Illinois and coached the Pinckneyville High School Shooting  
14 Sports Team to a national championship; he also coached the  
15 Pinckneyville Optimist Swim Team and helped in the founding of  
16 the Pinckneyville Band Parents Organization; and

17           WHEREAS, Stuart Wright was a lifetime member of the  
18 National Rifle Association and Amateur Trapshooting  
19 Association; he was heavily involved with the gun industry  
20 through his gunsmithing at Wright's Inc. and was a  
21 world-renowned Winchester Model 12 expert; and

1           WHEREAS, Stuart Wright started his gunsmithing company out  
2 of his garage in the 1970s while working full time as a coal  
3 miner and electrician, spending 25 years at CONSOL Energy  
4 Burning Star #4; and

5           WHEREAS, In 2002, Stuart Wright started his high school  
6 coaching career when he was asked to coach the school's FFA  
7 squad, growing the squad from just 5 shooters to 32 shooters,  
8 participating in trap, skeet, and sporting clays; and

9           WHEREAS, Stuart Wright's motto was "Fun With a Gun"; he led  
10 his team to national prominence by winning first place high  
11 overall at the Scholastic Clay Target Program Nationals in July  
12 of 2015; he taught his students leadership skills, how to act  
13 safely, and how to be respectful of other teams and fellow team  
14 members; and

15           WHEREAS, As head coach, Stuart Wright believed that every  
16 child that wanted to shoot should be given the opportunity, and  
17 that the team would support them in that endeavor regardless of  
18 financial situation; and

19           WHEREAS, On February 6 2015, Stuart Wright learned he had  
20 Stage 4 pancreatic cancer, but he never let it deter his  
21 coaching, getting out of bed after chemotherapy to make it to  
22 the World Shooting & Recreational Complex to watch his kids

1 compete in the Scholastic Clay Target Program championships;  
2 therefore, be it

3       RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
4 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
5 mourn the passing of Stuart "Stu" Wright, and extend our  
6 sincere condolences to his family, friends, and all who knew  
7 and loved him; and be it further

8       RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
9 presented to the family of Stuart Wright as an expression of  
10 our deepest sympathy.