



HR0790

LRB100 18385 MST 33594 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Home economics is a field of study that deals with
3 the economics and management of the home, family, and
4 community; it deals with the relationship between individuals,
5 families, communities, and the environment in which they live;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, Home economics had its start in Lake Placid, New
8 York during a series of annual conferences held between 1899
9 and 1910; organized by MIT sanitary engineer Mary Richards,
10 librarian Melvil Dewey, and a host of other educators, the
11 meetings were dedicated to finding ways to apply the latest in
12 science and technology to improve life in the American home;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, In 1908, the conferences led to the creation of
15 the American Home Economics Association, which lobbied the
16 federal government to fund educational programs, and the
17 resultant classes were a means of guiding young people through
18 modern consumer culture; and

19 WHEREAS, Some school systems have managed to breathe new
20 life into the course by divvying it up into more specialized
21 classes, such as courses that specifically address food
22 preparation, which might be more attractive to prospective

1 students in the age when Food Network-style programs inject fun
2 and excitement into life in the kitchen; however, because home
3 economics is typically classified as an elective course, it,
4 like art and music classes, is prone to being eliminated from a
5 school's course offerings; therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
7 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
8 urge that home economics be brought back into high school
9 curriculums with a comprehensive approach covering basic
10 cooking techniques, caloric requirements, sources of food,
11 budget principles, food safety, and the effects of food choice
12 on well-being, including the risk of chronic disease; and be it
13 further

14 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
15 delivered to the United States Secretary of Education, the
16 Chairman of the Illinois State Board of Education, and the
17 Illinois State Superintendent of Education.