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HOUSE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives wish to congratulate the Madison Senior High School band, the Trojans, on its recent accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, The Madison Senior High School band began with seven students who practiced over Zoom due to COVID-19 restrictions in the fall of 2020; today, the band boasts 45 dedicated members who play in person; and

WHEREAS, Last year, the Madison Senior High School band successfully performed at two St. Louis-based parades; the band achieved first place at its first parade, the Annie Malone Parade, and placed second at the 2022 Thanks-for-Giving Parade; and

WHEREAS, The Madison Senior High School marching band played at the Chamber of Commerce Breakfast at the World Wide Technology Raceway in Madison on March 16, 2023; and

WHEREAS, The Madison Senior High School band performed at the school's Jazz Appreciation Month Concert on April 13, 2023, which featured current and past members of the St. Louis Musicians Union Local 2-197 and gave students the opportunity to perform side-by-side with professional musicians; and

1           WHEREAS, The Madison Senior High School band played in the  
2 exhibition category at the Louis Armstrong HBCU Jazz Festival  
3 at Tennessee State University in Nashville on April 15, 2023,  
4 where students were able to experience the city's rich music  
5 history and visit the National Museum of African American  
6 Music on April 14; and

7           WHEREAS, The Madison Senior High School band has been  
8 invited to perform for the second Enjoy Illinois 300 NASCAR  
9 Cup Series event at the World Wide Technology Raceway in  
10 Madison; the marching band will perform on June 3, 2023, and  
11 the drum line will perform on June 4; and

12           WHEREAS, Through the Illinois Ambassadors of Music  
13 Association, the Madison Senior High School band will perform  
14 throughout eight European countries with over 300 other band  
15 students from Illinois from June 15 to June 30, 2023; the band  
16 will include nine Madison Senior High School students, with  
17 eight being seniors; and

18           WHEREAS, Upon returning from Europe, the Madison Senior  
19 High School band will play at the annual festival Fair St.  
20 Louis on July 4, 2023; and

21           WHEREAS, The Madison Senior High School band is led by

1 Band Director Bernard Long Jr.; he was voted Teacher of the  
2 Year by Madison Community Unit School District (CUSD) 12 and  
3 also earned the 2023 Illinois State Board of Education Award  
4 of Meritorious Service in the teaching category; and

5 WHEREAS, The Madison Senior High School band is further  
6 supported by Madison Senior High School Principal Juan Gardner  
7 and Madison CUSD 12 Superintendent Andrew Reinking, Ed.D.;  
8 therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
10 HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
11 we congratulate the Madison Senior High School band, the  
12 Trojans, on its recent accomplishments, and we wish its band  
13 members continued success; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
15 presented to Band Director Bernard Long Jr. as an expression  
16 of our esteem and respect.