



HR0328

LRB103 32676 LAW 62382 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to congratulate Dean W. Dittmar on the
4 occasion of his retirement as coordinator of Facilitation
5 Coordination in Agricultural Education (FCAE) at the
6 University of Illinois; and

7 WHEREAS, Dean Dittmar was born to Lyle and Charlotte
8 Dittmar in Jo Daviess County near Galena in 1963, and he was
9 raised on the family dairy, beef, and grain farm; he attended
10 Galena High School, where he completed agriculture courses and
11 served as chapter president of FFA, earning his State FFA
12 Degree; his Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects
13 included managing 200 laying hens while selling the eggs to
14 restaurants and neighbors as well as raising two beef cows and
15 feeder calves; and

16 WHEREAS, Dean Dittmar initially majored in agricultural
17 engineering in the College of Agriculture at the University of
18 Illinois before deciding to study education instead to pursue
19 a career as an agricultural education teacher; during his
20 studies, he was actively involved in the Ag Education Club,
21 serving as president, and was named an outstanding junior and
22 senior member; he completed student teaching at Rochelle High
23 School; and

1 WHEREAS, Dean Dittmar taught agriculture at Waterloo High
2 School from 1985 to 1990, teaching an average of 110 students
3 annually out of 550 students; he guided students as they
4 participated in FFA, which resulted in students earning nine
5 State FFA Degrees, one American FFA Degree, 26 section
6 proficiency awards, 10 district proficiency awards, and two
7 state proficiency awards, placing second as a state
8 agribusiness management team, and their alumni chapter
9 receiving a gold rating; he received the Illinois Association
10 of Vocational Agriculture Teachers (IAVAT) Outstanding Young
11 Member Award and was named the Waterloo High School Teacher of
12 the Year in 1989; he assisted in organizing the 50th Waterloo
13 FFA Anniversary Banquet in 1990, where over 600 individuals
14 attended; he also served as the secretary/treasurer and
15 chairperson of IAVAT's Section 22; and

16 WHEREAS, When the Illinois Leadership Council for
17 Agricultural Education (ILCAE) and the Illinois Committee for
18 Agricultural Education (ICAE) were formed in the 1980s, Dean
19 Dittmar was selected to be the field advisor of District 5 of
20 Facilitating Coordination in Agricultural Education (FCAE),
21 which began on July 1, 1990; through the position, he provided
22 assistance, improvements, and opportunities for success to a
23 broader network, and his work with educators allowed for a
24 greater impact on thousands of students; and

1 WHEREAS, During his 33 years as a FCAE program advisor,
2 Dean Dittmar assisted in the start of 33 new agricultural
3 education programs and 24 FFA alumni chapters; he also
4 presented agriscience curriculums, hands-on activities, and
5 resources at more than 675 workshops to over 17,000
6 participants; and

7 WHEREAS, For the past five years, Dean Dittmar has served
8 as coordinator of FCAE, guiding the best use of funding for
9 schools, teachers, and students with a budget of \$1,024,500,
10 including agriculture courses fulfilling graduation academic
11 requirements, additional funding for programs and teacher
12 contracts, Ag In The Classroom(AITC) county partnerships, and
13 involvement with Minorities in Agriculture Natural Resources
14 and Related Sciences (MANRRS); he has been instrumental in
15 maintaining, improving, and expanding agricultural education
16 programs in schools and increasing the quality talent pipeline
17 for agribusinesses; and

18 WHEREAS, Dean Dittmar is also a member of the St. Louis
19 AgriBusiness Club, where he served as president in 2006; and

20 WHEREAS, Dean Dittmar has been married to his wife, Eva,
21 since 1997, and they have two daughters, Taylor and Jesse;
22 therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
2 HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
3 we congratulate Dean W. Dittmar on his retirement as
4 coordinator of Facilitation Coordination in Agricultural
5 Education (FCAE) at the University of Illinois, and we commend
6 his dedication to students and educators in agriculture; and
7 be it further

8 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
9 presented to Dean Dittmar as an expression of our esteem and
10 respect.