



HR0677

LRB103 40131 MST 71810 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to congratulate the West Central Co-op
4 [Winchester-Bluffs] boys basketball team, the Cougars, on
5 winning the 2023-2024 Class 1A State Championship; and

6 WHEREAS, The Cougars defeated Mounds Meridian 62 to 43 in
7 the championship game on March 9, 2024 at State Farm Center in
8 Champaign to claim the first boys basketball state
9 championship in the history of West Central; and

10 WHEREAS, The Cougars finished the season with a record of
11 36 wins and 3 losses, the most wins in a single season in
12 school history; and

13 WHEREAS, The Cougars won all three of their regular season
14 tournaments, the Beardstown Thanksgiving Tournament, the
15 Waverly Holiday Tournament, and the 101st Winchester
16 Invitational Tournament, as well as going undefeated in the
17 Western Illinois Valley Conference Championship; and

18 WHEREAS, The Cougars' road to a state championship was not
19 easy, and the team had to face many difficult opponents along
20 the way, including the 46-42 win in the Class 1A
21 Supersectional at the Jacksonville Bowl against the Illini

1 Bluffs, a team with a historically successful basketball
2 program that featured a division one recruit; and

3 WHEREAS, The Cougars' semifinal opponent was Aurora
4 Christian; the team trailed for most of the game and was down
5 by eight points with 3 minutes 59 seconds remaining, but the
6 senior-laden squad did not give in and emerged with a 70 to 65
7 double-overtime victory; and

8 WHEREAS, The Cougars played against Mounds Meridian two
9 days later in the finals and had a strong start, including an 8
10 to 0 run in the first quarter, and controlled the first half
11 with a 33 to 19 halftime lead; when the final buzzer sounded,
12 the team had earned a state championship victory; therefore,
13 be it

14 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
15 HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
16 we congratulate the West Central Co-op [Winchester-Bluffs]
17 boys basketball team, the Cougars, on winning the 2023-2024
18 Class 1A State Championship, and we wish them many more
19 successful seasons; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be given
21 to each member of the Cougars team, Varsity Coach Ryan
22 Sichting, Assistant Coach Bill Jacquot, Assistant Coach Brady

1 Slagle, Mason Berry, Carson Clevenger, Cameron Sievers, Nick
2 Hamilton, Ryker Ford, Zac Howard, Zack Evans, Chance Little,
3 Carson Brown, Blayne Sidwell, Gabe Howard, and Caden Meyer.