



HR1384

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, August 28, 2010 marks the 20th anniversary of one  
3 of the worst natural disasters to ever hit the State of  
4 Illinois, the tornado in Will County, which was the only F-5  
5 twister to ever hit the Chicago area; and

6           WHEREAS, In the afternoon hours of that fateful Tuesday, a  
7 7-mile long, 700-foot wide tornado touched down in Will County,  
8 which brought torrential rainfall and wind speeds in excess of  
9 260 miles per hour; the tornado created a path of destruction  
10 that passed directly over Plainfield and stretched over 16  
11 miles before the twister went airborne over Joliet; and

12           WHEREAS, In the aftermath of the storm, 29 people were  
13 killed, including one person who died after the storm as a  
14 consequence of damage to his home, and over 350 people were  
15 injured; the tornado also destroyed or damaged a church, a  
16 library, a fire station, 3 school buildings, over 100 apartment  
17 units, and over 1,000 single family homes; and

18           WHEREAS, The towns of Plainfield, Crest Hill, and Joliet  
19 were so badly damaged they were declared federal and state  
20 disaster areas by President George H.W. Bush and Illinois  
21 Governor James Thompson; after generating national media  
22 attention regarding the size, strength, and devastation

1 associated with the tornado, relief efforts were led by the  
2 National Guard and involved almost all of the dedicated  
3 citizens of the affected area; and

4 WHEREAS, In the face of such adversity, the citizens of  
5 Plainfield, Will County, and the surrounding area stepped up to  
6 the plate to rebuild homes, schools, and other structures,  
7 while also rebuilding relationships with neighbors and  
8 strengthening the bond they have with their communities; and

9 WHEREAS, In the 20 years following this disaster, the  
10 section of Will County affected by this storm has become one of  
11 the most prosperous and fastest-growing, in terms of  
12 population, regions in the state; and

13 WHEREAS, The anniversary of this event should serve to  
14 remember the men, women, and children who perished in this  
15 natural disaster and honor and praise those who survived the  
16 trial and aided the relief and rebuilding efforts; therefore,  
17 be it

18 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
19 NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
20 remember those who were killed by the Will County tornado of  
21 August 28, 1990, praise those who survived the tornado, and  
22 show our admiration for the resolve of the affected communities

1 in their superb rebuilding efforts; and be it further

2       RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be  
3 presented to the Mayor Michael Collins of Plainfield, Mayor Ray  
4 Soliman of Crest Hill, Mayor Arthur Schultz of Joliet, the Will  
5 County Board, Principal Robert Smith of Plainfield High School,  
6 and Dr. John Harper, Superintendent of Plainfield Consolidated  
7 Community School District #202, as a symbol of our respect and  
8 esteem.