



HR1399

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives are pleased to congratulate the students,  
4 faculty, and administration of Proviso East High School in  
5 Maywood on the occasion of the school's 100th anniversary in  
6 2010; and

7           WHEREAS, Proviso East High School's cornerstone was laid on  
8 January 21, 1911, in a ceremony presided over by a local lodge  
9 of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; in October of 1915,  
10 the school district began the process of selling \$50,000 in  
11 bonds for the purpose of expanding the school; and

12           WHEREAS, In 1929, work began on Proviso East High School's  
13 new school building; in November of 1936, voters in the  
14 district approved a bond issue, in conjunction with funding  
15 from the Public Works Administration, for the construction of a  
16 fieldhouse, which was completed in 1938; and

17           WHEREAS, After the outbreak of World War II, many changes  
18 were made to Proviso East High School's curriculum, including a  
19 co-ed pre-flight aeronautics class, coursework to help fill  
20 needed jobs in the agriculture sector, a National Youth  
21 Administration workshop for vocational education, and  
22 industrial classes necessary for the war effort; and

1           WHEREAS, In April of 1951, the Illinois Education  
2 Association sponsored a meeting at Proviso East High School;  
3 the meeting featured a keynote address by Edith S. Sampson, the  
4 United States' alternate delegate to the United Nations and the  
5 first African-American woman to represent the U.S. at the  
6 United Nations; in 1953, researchers from the University of  
7 Chicago recommended that the school begin expansion plans and  
8 school district officials began examining the purchase of land  
9 for a new school; by 1955, the school population had grown to  
10 over 3,400 students; and

11           WHEREAS, In 1963, over 7,000 students attended Proviso East  
12 High School and its sister school, Proviso West High School,  
13 necessitating the need for further room at Proviso East; the  
14 school added a total of 9 new classrooms by carving them from a  
15 hallway and the passageway which connected the new and old  
16 additions of the school; the 1960s also saw Proviso East caught  
17 up in a great deal of the racial turmoil that was prevalent in  
18 the country in the late 1960s, with numerous incidents creating  
19 racial problems within the student body; and

20           WHEREAS, Proviso East High School is known for its  
21 extensive list of notable alumni, including athletes Jim  
22 Brewer, Glenn "Doc" Rivers, and Ray Nitschke, businesswomen  
23 Sheila Johnson, actor Dennis Franz, and astronaut Eugene

1 Cernan, who was the last person to walk on the moon; and

2 WHEREAS, The students and staff of Proviso East High School  
3 serves as models of hard work, integrity, and dedication for  
4 the people of the State of Illinois; therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
6 NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
7 congratulate the students, faculty, and administration of  
8 Proviso East High School in Maywood on the occasion of the  
9 school's 100th anniversary and wish them continued success and  
10 happiness in the future; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
12 presented to Proviso East High School principal Milton Patch as  
13 a symbol of our esteem and respect.