



HR0237

LRB097 11385 GRL 53680 r

1

HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives are pleased to congratulate Paul Ritter, a  
4 science teacher at Pontiac Township High School in Pontiac, on  
5 the occasion of being designated as a SeaWorld/Busch Gardens  
6 Outstanding Environmental Educator; and

7           WHEREAS, The National Science Teachers Association (NSTA)  
8 named Paul Ritter as a SeaWorld/Busch Gardens Outstanding  
9 Environmental Educator; NSTA presently gives out annual NSTA  
10 Teacher Awards Program to honor deserving K-12 teachers,  
11 principals, professors, and other science education  
12 professionals for their outstanding work and achievement in  
13 science education; and

14           WHEREAS, Paul Ritter grew up in Mendota; he earned his  
15 bachelor's degree in zoology and his master's degree in  
16 secondary science education from Eastern Illinois University;  
17 he began his teaching career in 1994 in biology and earth  
18 science; and

19           WHEREAS, Paul Ritter has a passion for education and the  
20 environment, which led him to complete several projects,  
21 including the Prescription Pill and Drug Disposal Program, the  
22 Pontiac Township High School Crayon Recycling Program, the PTHS

1 Cell Phone Recycling Program, the Pontiac Billboard Project,  
2 the PTHS Ecology Class "Adopt A Highway" Project, the PTHS  
3 Ecology Student Weather Radio Program, and the Storm Sewer  
4 Stenciling Program, a community project between Pontiac  
5 Township High School students and Pontiac Grade School  
6 students; his projects combine the efforts of his students with  
7 other classes, communities, businesses, and state governments;  
8 his most recognized project is the Prescription Pill and Drug  
9 Disposal Program, which educates the public about the harm done  
10 to the environment because of drug disposal practices and  
11 provides people with an alternative way of disposal, ensuring  
12 the quality of water for the future; and

13 WHEREAS, Paul Ritter was the 2007-2008 Illinois State Board  
14 of Education Teacher of the Year runner-up, the 2009-2010 NSDAR  
15 Illinois Conservation Award winner, the 2009-2010 NSDAR  
16 National Conservation Award runner-up, and the 2009-2010  
17 Illinois Conservation Teacher of the Year; therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
19 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
20 we congratulate Paul Ritter on the occasion of being designated  
21 as a SeaWorld/Busch Gardens Outstanding Environmental Educator  
22 and wish him continued success in his career as an educator;  
23 and be it further

1           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
2 presented to Paul Ritter as a symbol of our respect and esteem.