



HR0494

LRB097 12943 GRL 57444 r

1

HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are pleased to congratulate the students,
4 faculty, staff, trustees, and friends of Knox College in
5 Galesburg on the occasion of the 175th anniversary of the
6 founding of the college in February of 2012; and

7 WHEREAS, A group of 19th century social reformers, led by
8 the Reverend George Washington Gale, traveled from upstate New
9 York to western Illinois to found a college that would be
10 accessible to students regardless of their financial means,
11 gender, or race; and

12 WHEREAS, The Illinois General Assembly, which included
13 Representative Abraham Lincoln, chartered the Knox Manual
14 Labor College on February 15, 1837; the name was officially
15 shortened to Knox College in 1857; and

16 WHEREAS, The pervasive spirit of equality on campus
17 motivated Abraham Lincoln to use the occasion of his fifth U.S.
18 Senate debate with Stephen Douglas, held on the Knox campus in
19 1858, to denounce slavery on moral terms for the first time;
20 the Knox College Board of Trustees gave Lincoln his first
21 honorary degree two years later when he ran for president of
22 the United States; and

1 WHEREAS, For its entire history, Knox College has been -
2 and continues to be - a community of scholar-teachers and
3 students working together, guided by the values of independent
4 thought, personal integrity, and community responsibility;
5 students are given the freedom to flourish and are encouraged
6 to explore ideas and places, stretch their intellect and their
7 talents, blend thought with action, and fuse imagination with
8 initiative; and

9 WHEREAS, Today, Knox College is a national liberal arts
10 college with students from 48 states and 46 countries; "Old
11 Main" on the Knox campus is a National Historic Landmark and
12 the only building still remaining from the 1858 Lincoln-Douglas
13 Debates; and

14 WHEREAS, Knox College will observe the 175th anniversary of
15 its founding during the 2011-2012 academic year; therefore, be
16 it

17 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
18 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
19 we congratulate the students, faculty, staff, trustees, and
20 friends of Knox College on the occasion of the college's 175th
21 anniversary; and be it further

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