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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives are pleased to congratulate the Centralia High  
4 School Orphans on the occasion of winning the 1st round of USA  
5 Today's Best Mascot Contest; and

6           WHEREAS, There are varying accounts of how Centralia High  
7 School was given their nickname; most notably, a Chicago  
8 sportswriter said that "they looked like a bunch of orphans but  
9 they sure could play basketball"; during the Great Depression,  
10 the team was forced to wear uniforms that were eventually  
11 reduced to rags; in the 1970s, Centralia introduced girls  
12 athletics to the school and it was only fitting to name them  
13 the Orphan Annie's; and

14           WHEREAS, The Centralia Orphans defeated the Cobden  
15 Appleknockers to win the state round; and

16           WHEREAS, The Orphans are now competing in the regional  
17 contest to advance on to the finals; and

18           WHEREAS, School computer labs at Centralia High School have  
19 been open on nights and weekends, allowing students and  
20 community members to vote for Centralia; and

1           WHEREAS, The Best Mascot Contest has increased the school  
2 spirit of both Centralia High School and the members of the  
3 community; and

4           WHEREAS, Voting for the regional winner will continue  
5 through Thursday, March 14 at 2 P.M., at which time 6 finalists  
6 will compete for the championship through March 25; therefore,  
7 be it

8           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
9 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
10 we congratulate the Centralia High School Orphans on winning  
11 the Best Mascot Contest for the State of Illinois and wish them  
12 luck in the regional competition; and be it further

13           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
14 presented to Principal Reid Shipley and the Orphans as a symbol  
15 of our respect and esteem.