



HR1297

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of former
4 Fighting Illini men's basketball assistant coach Wayne
5 McClain, who passed away on October 15, 2014; and

6 WHEREAS, Wayne McClain began his career in 1977 with Manual
7 High School in Peoria, serving as an assistant basketball coach
8 for 18 years to the legendary Dick Van Scyoc; he helped the
9 Rams to the first of 4 straight State titles in 1994 as an
10 assistant and was then named head coach in 1995; in his first 3
11 years as head coach, he led the Rams to 3 consecutive State
12 championships, which were led by his son, Sergio McClain, along
13 with stars Marcus Griffin and Frank Williams; in 1997, his
14 squad was named by USA Today as National High School Champions
15 and he was named National High School Coach of the Year; in his
16 first 3 seasons as head coach, he led the Rams to records of 32
17 wins and 2 losses, 31 wins and 2 losses, and 31 wins and 1 loss,
18 to go a combined 94 and 5 with what are considered some of the
19 most legendary teams in State basketball history; he also
20 earned Illinois Basketball Coaches Association Coach of the
21 Year in 1995, 1996, and 1997; the Rams won Midstate Six
22 Conference titles in each of his first 5 years as head coach
23 and advanced to the Sweet Sixteen of the AA State tournament in
24 1998 and 1999; his teaching career included teaching high

1 school physical education and serving as the Manual High School
2 Dean of Students; and

3 WHEREAS, Wayne McClain began his 11-year tenure with the
4 University of Illinois coaching staff under Bill Self beginning
5 with the 2001-02 season and remaining with Bruce Weber's staff
6 through the 2011-12 season; he helped coach the Fighting Illini
7 to 4 Big Ten championships and an appearance in the National
8 Championship game; and

9 WHEREAS, Wayne McClain returned to the high school ranks
10 for the 2013-14 season as head coach at Central High School in
11 Champaign; and

12 WHEREAS, Wayne McClain earned a bachelor's degree in
13 education from Bradley University in 1977 and a master's degree
14 in physical education from Illinois State University in 1992;
15 he and his wife, Robin, have 2 children, Sergio and Brindeshie,
16 and one grandchild, Sergio, Jr.; therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
18 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
19 we mourn the passing of Wayne McClain, and extend our sincere
20 condolences to his family, friends, and all who knew and loved
21 him; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That we declare January 15, 2015 as "Wayne
2 McClain Day" in the State of Illinois; and be it further

3 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
4 presented to the family of Wayne McClain as an expression of
5 our deepest sympathy.