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1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Illinois' beautiful lakes and rivers and its  
3 indoor and outdoor swimming pools are enjoyed by many for  
4 recreation all year round; and

5 WHEREAS, Water safety is a high priority for children and  
6 adults swimming in pools, lakes, rivers, oceans, and other  
7 bodies of water; and

8 WHEREAS, There are several conditions that make water  
9 activities dangerous; thus, adhering to safe water practices  
10 will help prepare children and parents for water activities and  
11 will help prevent devastating incidents related to water  
12 dangers; and

13 WHEREAS, Survella Chapman, age 11, and Brysom Dillon, age  
14 3, from Danville died from separate drowning incidents in 2013;  
15 and

16 WHEREAS, According to the Centers for Disease Control and  
17 Prevention, there was an average of 10 unintentional drowning  
18 deaths per day from 2005 to 2009 in the United States; one in 5  
19 people who die from drowning are children under the age of 14,  
20 and drowning is responsible for more deaths among children ages  
21 one in 4 than any other cause except congenital anomalies; and

1           WHEREAS, According to the Centers for Disease Control and  
2           Prevention, the main factors that affect drowning risk are lack  
3           of swimming ability, lack of barriers to prevent unsupervised  
4           water access, lack of close supervision while swimming,  
5           different water settings, the failure to wear life jackets,  
6           alcohol use, and seizure disorders; and

7           WHEREAS, Students in the Future Problem Solvers Club of  
8           North Ridge Middle School in Danville developed a comprehensive  
9           water safety curriculum with the goal of educating their  
10          community about basic water safety and swimming smarts in  
11          public places and at home; in turn, educating the community on  
12          the importance of water safety equips children and parents with  
13          life-saving information; and

14          WHEREAS, The curriculum includes 8 lessons that empower  
15          students to identify and demonstrate the 6 water safety tips  
16          through various games and activities, which are to be  
17          weather-wise, stay with a buddy, know how and when to use a  
18          life jacket, only swim in areas with lifeguards, enter all  
19          water feet first, and obey all safety and warning signs; and

20          WHEREAS, The Future Problem Solvers Club teaches young  
21          people how to work together cooperatively and creatively as  
22          they attack community problems; educating the public on water

1 safety dangers and practices is a passion of the hard-working  
2 students in the club; and

3 WHEREAS, The dedicated students of the Future Problem  
4 Solvers Club are Peyton Blodgett, Kaleb Medina, Erica Sadler,  
5 Makayla Smith, Audrey Talbott, Rebekah Wall, Abby Neal, Hope  
6 Ritchie, Delsie Robinson, Jolene Blodgett, Xitlally Bonilla,  
7 Brendan Burke, Micah Cherry, Taylor Fowler, and Sarah Swayze;  
8 their teacher supervisor is Lori Woods; therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
10 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE  
11 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that we urge School District 118 and  
12 all other school districts in the State of Illinois to consider  
13 adopting the water safety curriculum developed by the students  
14 in the Future Problem Solvers Club of North Ridge Middle  
15 School; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That we commend the students of the Future  
17 Problem Solvers Club for taking the initiative to educate the  
18 public on water safety dangers and practices; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
20 presented to the students of the Future Problem Solvers Club of  
21 North Ridge Middle School and School District 118 in Illinois  
22 as an expression of our gratitude for the students' hard work.