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1 HOUSE RESOLUTION 1139

2 WHEREAS, Paper and plastic disposable bags are distributed
3 extensively throughout our society; and

4 WHEREAS, Improper disposal results in plastic bags
5 becoming windblown through streets and parks, as sources of
6 litter with the potential to clog storm drains and sewers and
7 degrade soils and waterways; and

8 WHEREAS, Plastic bags are often the source of contamination
9 in residential curbside recycling collections, yard waste
10 collections, and food scrap composting, resulting in the
11 jamming of the mechanical parts of recycling facilities and
12 sewage treatment systems; and

13 WHEREAS, The economic value of recycled plastic bags as a
14 commodity is lost when they are collected in conventional
15 household recycling programs; plastic bags require handling in
16 specialized programs outside of the normal household recycling
17 stream; and

18 WHEREAS, An educational program needs to be established in
19 order to promote the recycling of plastic bags and the use of
20 reusable bags; and

1 WHEREAS, A unified and coordinated education, advocacy,
2 and recycling program of this nature will reflect a meaningful
3 and positive step forward towards reducing litter and plastic
4 bag waste; and

5 WHEREAS, These measures will help educate schools that need
6 to know about recycling waste; therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
8 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
9 designate the first Friday of May 2016 as "Recycle Thin Film
10 Friday"; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That "Recycle Thin Film Friday" is established in
12 the State of Illinois as an effort to reclaim used thin-film
13 plastic bags and to encourage consumers to use reusable bags;
14 and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
16 presented to Pontiac High School in recognition of the efforts
17 of its students to bring light to this issue.