



HR1264

LRB099 21919 MST 48877 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives wish to congratulate Ron Benner on his 50 years of service at West Chicago Community High School; and

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WHEREAS, Ron Benner has been the West Chicago Community High School choir accompanist for two decades; prior to becoming the accompanist, he worked at the school for 27 years as the school's choir director and then as a substitute teacher; and

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WHEREAS, Ron Benner started his career in downstate Illinois, jumping from one building to another over the course of six years, to teach band and choir at the grade school and high school level; and

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WHEREAS, In 1966, Ron Benner came to West Chicago Community High School to provide needed stability for the choirs, after the school had four separate choir directors in as many years; and

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WHEREAS, For 27 years, Ron Benner has dedicated himself to the choir program, which became award-winning and well-respected; and

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1           WHEREAS, Ron Benner also has lead the Madrigals, earning  
2 first-place prizes in the process; he directed five musicals  
3 between 1977 and 1983, formed the school's first swing choir in  
4 1974, and took his students to sing with Ann Jillian at the  
5 Palmer House in Chicago; and

6           WHEREAS, Ron Benner retired from the school in 1993, but  
7 continued coming back as a substitute teacher; he dedicated  
8 more time to his role as music director of the First United  
9 Methodist Church in West Chicago, a position he has held since  
10 1990; and

11           WHEREAS, A few years after his retirement, he was asked to  
12 come back to the school's choir department as an accompanist; a  
13 position he has held ever since; and

14           WHEREAS, Ron Benner will be recognized for his 50 years of  
15 service during the choir's final concert of the school year on  
16 May 19, 2016 in the school's Weyrauch Auditorium; and

17           WHEREAS, Ron Benner has served as a mentor and a friend to  
18 the musicians and director of West Chicago Community High  
19 School, both past and present; therefore, be it

20           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
21 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we

1 congratulate Ron Benner on his 50 years of service at West  
2 Chicago Community High School; and be it further

3       RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
4 presented to Ron Benner as a symbol of our respect and esteem.