

HB4105



100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2017 and 2018

HB4105

by Rep. Mary E. Flowers

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

5 ILCS 490/64 new

Amends the State Commemorative Dates Act. Provides that beginning in September of 2018, the month of September of each year is designated as Education of Original National Anthem Month to be observed throughout the State as a month set apart to promote the study of the history behind the creation of "The Star-Spangled Banner", including its original lyrics and the individuals represented by those lyrics. Effective immediately.

LRB100 14824 RJF 29644 b

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning government.

2 WHEREAS, Most Americans are not aware of the full history
3 and origin of what would become our National Anthem; and

4 WHEREAS, the vacancies in the stories told about our
5 collective history must be filled in with every honest and
6 humble effort, so that all citizens of every race are able to
7 face the complex emotions and disturbing facts that feed so
8 much of the animosity and confusion present in our society
9 today; and

10 WHEREAS, That animosity and confusion fuels the divisions
11 and misunderstandings that threaten the peace and act as an
12 ever-present obstacle to our advancement as a society in the
13 cause of justice and lasting peace for all; and

14 WHEREAS, The many issues concerning race in America in
15 conjunction with the overarching sense of what the American
16 flag and the National Anthem mean to different people is of
17 compelling importance at this time in our history; and

18 WHEREAS, Teachers and scholars are available throughout
19 our State to assist young and old alike in building a base of
20 knowledge from which to bring minds and hearts to a common
21 understanding in furtherance of what still remains our
22 Constitutional imperative, which is to continue the onward

1 march towards establishing a more perfect union; therefore

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The State Commemorative Dates Act is amended by
5 adding Section 64 as follows:

6 (5 ILCS 490/64 new)

7 Sec. 64. Education of Original National Anthem Month.
8 Beginning in September of 2018 and for each September
9 thereafter, the month of September is designated as Education
10 of Original National Anthem Month to be observed throughout the
11 State as a month set apart to promote the study of the history
12 behind the creation of "The Star-Spangled Banner", including
13 its original lyrics and the individuals represented by those
14 lyrics.

15 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
16 becoming law.