



HR0459

LRB100 13008 MST 27223 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives wish to congratulate Harold Katz on the  
4 occasion of his bar mitzvah on May 28, 2017; and

5 WHEREAS, Harold Katz first prepared for his bar mitzvah 76  
6 years ago in his hometown of Tarn, Czechoslovakia; and

7 WHEREAS, Shortly before the time of his bar mitzvah, Harold  
8 Katz fled on the back of a wagonload of lumber from  
9 Czechoslovakia to Budapest, Hungary to escape Nazi forces; and

10 WHEREAS, Harold Katz spent the next four years in Budapest  
11 hiding from the Nazis by obtaining false identity papers; he  
12 faced many trials during his time in Budapest, including  
13 escaping from prison three times and trying to obtain passage  
14 to Jerusalem; and

15 WHEREAS, While Harold Katz was hiding, his parents,  
16 brothers, and sisters were transported to Auschwitz, where his  
17 entire family, except his brother, Maurie, were killed; and

18 WHEREAS, Harold Katz and Maurie were reunited after World  
19 War II; they located family in the United States and moved to  
20 Chicago; and

1           WHEREAS, Harold Katz began working as a sewing machine  
2 operator and opened a construction company with his brother;  
3 and

4           WHEREAS, Harold Katz met his wife, Judy, a survivor of  
5 Auschwitz, at the Jewish People's Institute in Chicago, where  
6 they were learning English; they later had a daughter and two  
7 sons; therefore, be it

8           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
9 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
10 congratulate Harold Katz on his bar mitzvah and we wish him and  
11 his family all the best during the momentous occasion; and be  
12 it further

13           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
14 presented to Harold Katz as an expression of our esteem and  
15 respect.