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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are pleased to congratulate Haki R. Madhubuti
4 on the occasion of his 70th birthday on February 23, 2012; and

5 WHEREAS, Haki Madhubuti was born as Donald Luther Lee on
6 February 23, 1942, in Little Rock, Arkansas; he grew up in
7 Detroit, Michigan; and

8 WHEREAS, Haki Madhubuti attended Wilson Junior College,
9 Roosevelt University, and the University of Illinois; he earned
10 his Master of Fine Arts degree from the University of Iowa in
11 1984; and

12 WHEREAS, Haki Madhubuti served as a member of the United
13 States Armed Forces from 1960 to 1963; and

14 WHEREAS, Haki Madhubuti was employed as an apprentice
15 curator at the DuSable Museum of African American History in
16 Chicago from 1963 to 1967; he served as a writer-in-residence
17 at Cornell University from 1968 to 1969, a poet-in-residence at
18 Northwestern Illinois State College from 1969 to 1970, and a
19 writer-in-residence at Howard University from 1970 to 1978; he
20 has served as editor and publisher of the Third World Press
21 since 1967; he has also served as a professor of English at

1 Chicago State University since 1984; and

2 WHEREAS, Haki Madhubuti is well known as a major influence
3 on African-American writers and a leading political voice for
4 black awareness and pride; his poems and political writings
5 stress the creation of an independent black identity, as well
6 as an emphasis on self-reliance and social protest; and

7 WHEREAS, Haki Madhubuti is the author of numerous works;
8 his first book of poems, "Think Black", was published under the
9 name Donald L. Lee in 1967; he is also the author of "Don't
10 Cry, Scream" (1969), "We Walk the Way of the New World" (1970),
11 and "Directionscore: Selected and New Poems" (1971); under the
12 name of Haki R. Madhubuti, he published "Book of Life" (1973),
13 "Earthquakes and Sunrise Missions: Poetry and Essays of Black
14 Renewal, 1973-1983" (1978), "Killing Memory, Seeking
15 Ancestors" (1987), "GroundWork: Selected Poems of Haki R.
16 Madhubuti" (1996), and "Heartlove" (1998); he has also authored
17 and edited a number of books on the African-American
18 experience, including "Million Man March/Day of Absence: A
19 Commemorative Anthology. Speeches, Commentary, Photography,
20 Poetry, Illustrations, Documents" (1996) and has contributed
21 to numerous anthologies and published poetry and political
22 essays in a wide range of journals and magazines; and

23 WHEREAS, Haki Madhubuti has been the recipient of numerous

1 awards and honors, including National Endowment for the Arts
2 fellowships in 1969 and 1982, the Kuumba Workshop Black
3 Liberation Award in 1973, and the Broadside Press Outstanding
4 Poet's Award in 1975; under his direction, the Third World
5 Press has also received numerous honors and awards; therefore,
6 be it

7 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
8 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
9 we congratulate Haki R. Madhubuti on the occasion of his 70th
10 birthday and wish him success and happiness in the future; and
11 be it further

12 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
13 presented to Haki Madhubuti as a symbol of our esteem and
14 respect.