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1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, From the beginning of our history, Irish Americans 2 3 have contributed to the cultural and economic development of 4 both the State of Illinois and the United States of America; 5 and 6 WHEREAS, Generations of Irish immigrants have crossed the 7 Atlantic in pursuit of a better life and with a drive to be 8 successful in America; and 9 WHEREAS, Despite an early lack of employment opportunities 10 in developing America, Irish immigrants supported and became leaders of union efforts; and 11 12 WHEREAS, With their extraordinary organizational 13 abilities, Irish Americans transformed American politics by putting local working class people into positions of political 14 15 power; and 16 WHEREAS, Irish Americans have helped develop American 17 culture with prominent contributions in the arts and entertainment through their rich heritage and culture; and 18 19 WHEREAS, Today, an estimated 34.5 million Americans

proudly trace their heritage to Irish roots and continue to

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- 1 significantly influence American culture; and
- 2 WHEREAS, Irish Americans represent the resilience and grit
- needed to achieve the American dream; and 3
- WHEREAS, Throughout much of the 21st century, American 4
- 5 Presidents have pronounced March as "Irish American Heritage
- Month"; therefore, be it 6
- 7 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
- 8 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we,
- 9 designate March of 2017 as "Irish American Heritage Month"; and
- 10 be it further
- RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be 11
- presented to the Ancient Order of Hibernians Illinois State 12
- 13 Board as an expression of our esteem and respect.