



SR1779

LRB100 22179 MST 40657 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives wish to congratulate B'nai B'rith International on the occasion of its 175th anniversary; and

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WHEREAS, B'nai B'rith was founded on the lower east side of New York to improve the lives of new Jewish immigrants to America; and

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WHEREAS, B'nai B'rith is the oldest service organization founded in the United States and has an unparalleled record of aiding humanity in communities throughout the United States and several dozen nations around the world; and

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WHEREAS, B'nai B'rith has provided over \$100 million in cash, medical equipment, and supplies to victims of disasters worldwide since 1865; and

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WHEREAS, B'nai B'rith is a strong and vocal advocate for the State of Israel and has had an active presence in Israel since 1888; and

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WHEREAS, B'nai B'rith has an active presence as a NGO at the United Nations since its founding, and is the only Jewish NGO with full-time representation at the United Nations in New

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1 York and its agencies in Europe and Latin America; and

2 WHEREAS, B'nai B'rith is the largest national Jewish
3 sponsor of federally-funded housing for seniors with limited
4 income; the organization provides safe, comfortable, and
5 affordable housing for seniors without regard for race,
6 religion, and ethnicity and has an international network of
7 senior living facilities; and

8 WHEREAS, B'nai B'rith is widely acclaimed as a forceful
9 advocate for senior citizens with a special emphasis on
10 protecting Social Security and Medicare and in supporting
11 access to quality health care and funding for the aging
12 services network and minimum wage; and

13 WHEREAS, B'nai B'rith has a long history of promoting
14 cultural diversity, inclusion, and understanding, via
15 grassroots education projects such as the Diverse Minds Writing
16 Challenge, where high school students write and illustrate
17 children's books, to help teach them the values of inclusion
18 and diversity; and

19 WHEREAS, B'nai B'rith volunteers are active in their local
20 communities, providing countless hours of service to projects
21 to better the communities in which they live; and

1 WHEREAS, The past B'nai B'rith International President,
2 Mr. Allan J. Jacobs, is a resident of Lake Forest; and

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Sheldon Marcus presently serves as Senior Vice
4 President of B'nai B'rith International and is a resident of
5 Morton Grove; therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH GENERAL
7 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we declare October 13,
8 2018 as "B'nai B'rith Day" in the State of Illinois; and be it
9 further

10 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
11 presented to B'nai B'rith International as a symbol of our
12 respect and esteem.