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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, Since the beginning of the settlement and  
3 development of Illinois in the early nineteenth century,  
4 Illinois has been a destination and haven for immigrants from  
5 around the globe; and

6           WHEREAS, The State of Illinois is grateful for all of the  
7 hardworking people who have come to settle in this State from  
8 nearly every nation on earth; and

9           WHEREAS, The State of Illinois appreciates the  
10 contributions of immigrants toward its historic rise as one of  
11 the great states of the Union and the home of over twelve  
12 million people; and

13           WHEREAS, The State of Illinois has always taken pause to  
14 honor individual communities that have contributed to its  
15 greatness; and

16           WHEREAS, One of the distinct communities that has  
17 historically provided great contributions to the State  
18 throughout its history is the Irish-American community, which  
19 is comprised of over one and a half million Illinois residents;  
20 and

1           WHEREAS, Hundreds of Illinois Irish-Americans trace their  
2 ancestry, if not their birth, to the Town of Swinford, County  
3 Mayo, Ireland, which is a rural market town of approximately  
4 2,000 people; and

5           WHEREAS, In this year, 2019, the Town of Swinford, County  
6 Mayo, is celebrating and commemorating the 250th anniversary of  
7 its founding as a chartered town in 1769; and

8           WHEREAS, Among the many people of Illinois who trace their  
9 ancestry to the Town of Swinford are nineteen public officials,  
10 now serving or retired, who serve or have served the northern  
11 Illinois and Chicago metropolitan area; and

12           WHEREAS, The remarkable number of northern Illinois and  
13 Chicago area public officials for whom the Town of Swinford is  
14 their ancestral home include the following:

15                   Hon. Michael J. Brennan, former Orland Township  
16 Supervisor;

17                   Hon. Daniel P. Brennan, Circuit Judge, Circuit Court of  
18 Cook County;

19                   Hon. John T. Carr, Associate Judge, Circuit Court of  
20 Cook County;

21                   Hon. Alison C. Conlon, Circuit Judge, Circuit Court of  
22 Cook County;

23                   Hon. Michael G. Connelly, former Illinois State

1 Senator, 21st District;

2 Hon. John J. Curry, Jr., Circuit Judge, Circuit Court  
3 of Cook County;

4 Sheila O'Grady Duffy, former Chief of Staff to Mayor  
5 Richard M. Daley of Chicago;

6 Hon. James B. Durkin, Illinois State Representative,  
7 82nd District and House Minority Leader;

8 Hon. Melissa A. Durkin, Associate Judge, Circuit Court  
9 of Cook County;

10 Hon. Thomas M. Durkin, United States District Judge,  
11 Northern District of Illinois;

12 Hon. Thomas P. Durkin, retired Circuit Judge, Circuit  
13 Court of Cook County;

14 Hon. James Henry, retired Circuit Judge, Circuit Court  
15 of Cook County;

16 Hon. Michael T. Mullen, Circuit Judge, Circuit Court of  
17 Cook County;

18 Hon. Sheila M. O'Brien, retired Justice of the Illinois  
19 Appellate Court, First District;

20 Hon. Paul A. O'Grady, Orland Township Supervisor;

21 Hon. Maureen Durkin Roy, retired Circuit Judge,  
22 Circuit Court of Cook County;

23 Hon. Martin T. Tully, Mayor, Village of Downers Grove;

24 Hon. Thomas M. Tully, former County Assessor of Cook  
25 County; and

26 Hon. Thomas M. Tunney, Alderman, 44th Ward, City of

1 Chicago; and be it further

2 WHEREAS, These officials will be honoring Swinford, County  
3 Mayo, Ireland this year as it commemorates its 250th  
4 anniversary by their presentation of a group portrait to the  
5 town on August 1, 2019, the day of its anniversary festival;  
6 and

7 WHEREAS, Many other descendants and emigres of the Town of  
8 Swinford, Ireland have enriched the State of Illinois by  
9 serving in the medical and legal professions, in business and  
10 commerce, in the arts, in public service, and through community  
11 involvement; and

12 WHEREAS, Through its hundreds of descendants and natives  
13 living in Illinois, the residents of our State are aware of the  
14 charms of the 250 year old Town of Swinford, County Mayo, which  
15 is known for its recreational fishing, cycling, and hiking, its  
16 annual August Siamsa Sraide Festival, its proximity to the  
17 natural beauty of Lough Conn, the River Moy, the Nephin  
18 Mountain Range, and the scenic Atlantic coast of Mayo, as well  
19 as its significant and historic locales such as Bronze Age  
20 archeological sites, medieval round towers, ancient  
21 monasteries, the religious pilgrimage site of Knock, and the  
22 historic Mellett's Pub, established 1797, the 12th oldest  
23 business in Ireland, owned by cousins to the late Patrick

1 Mellett of Chicago, who owned Mellett's Tavern at 4728 West  
2 Madison Street, Chicago, for over fifty-five years; therefore,  
3 be it

4       RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
5 HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
6 we hereby honor the proud natives and descendants of the Town  
7 of Swinford, County Mayo, Ireland, who are devoted citizens of  
8 the State of Illinois, including the nineteen public officials  
9 among their number who have dutifully served in the State of  
10 Illinois, and further do hereby honor the Town of Swinford,  
11 County Mayo, Ireland, and its citizens, as they commemorate the  
12 250th anniversary of its founding in this year, 2019; and be it  
13 further

14       RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
15 presented to the Town of Swinford, County Mayo, Ireland, as a  
16 sign of our recognition of the 250th anniversary of its  
17 founding.