



HR0418

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, On April 4, 1818, during the same year that
3 Illinois was granted statehood, the United States Congress
4 passed the Flag Act of 1818, defining as the standard for our
5 nation's flag that it shall be comprised of 13 alternating red
6 and white horizontal stripes along with a field of blue
7 containing 20 white stars representing the 20 states at that
8 time; and

9 WHEREAS, The Flag Act of 1818 specified that a star should
10 be added to our nation's flag for each future state admitted to
11 the union and that each new star should be added on the next
12 Independence Day, July 4, following a state's admission to the
13 union; and

14 WHEREAS, On December 3, 1818, President James Monroe signed
15 the congressional authorization admitting Illinois into the
16 union as the 21st state of the United States of America; and

17 WHEREAS, On July 4, 1819, the 21st star, representing
18 Illinois statehood, was added to the United States flag, which
19 served as the official flag until July 3, 1820 when the 22nd
20 and 23rd stars were added; and

21 WHEREAS, On December 3, 2018, Illinois celebrated its

1 bicentennial, culminating a year-long celebration of our great
2 State's 200th birthday; and

3 WHEREAS, July 4, 2018 will be the 200th anniversary of the
4 21st star being added to the flag of the United States,
5 representing Illinois as the 21st state of our union; it was
6 also the first star added to the flag under the Flag Act of
7 1818, which remains the law to this day defining how stars are
8 added to the United States flag; and

9 WHEREAS, Any version of the United States flag which has
10 previously been an official version of the flag, including the
11 21-star flag following Illinois statehood, is still determined
12 to be an official flag of the United States and can be used in
13 any setting as an official flag of the United States;
14 therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
16 HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
17 on July 4, 2019, the bicentennial of the 21st star being added
18 to the flag of the United States, we honor that flag as a
19 lasting symbol of Illinois statehood; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That we encourage the citizens of Illinois to
21 celebrate the 200th anniversary of the star representing
22 Illinois being added to the flag of the United States by

1 remembering this historic occasion on Independence Day 2019.