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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, In 1968, the Illinois Board of Higher Education recommended that Southern Illinois University (SIU) create a medical school in downstate Illinois capable of graduating its first class of new physicians by 1978; and

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WHEREAS, SIU determined that it could maximize location and expertise by basing the clinical education programs of the new school in Springfield and basic science programs in Carbondale, making use of the educational resources already available on the campus; and

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WHEREAS, Under the direction of the founding dean, Dr. Richard H. Moy, the Southern Illinois University School of Medicine was established in 1970 with a mission to educate physicians with a focus on primary care for central and southern Illinois; and

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WHEREAS, As part of the Southern Illinois University System, the School of Medicine exists to improve the health, health care, and health care education for downstate Illinois and to advance the discipline of medicine; and

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WHEREAS, The SIU School of Medicine was among the first to incorporate problem-based learning, surgical skills

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1 simulation, and standardized patients into the medical school  
2 curriculum; and

3 WHEREAS, The SIU School of Medicine engages in  
4 world-renowned research that covers a wide range of basic and  
5 clinical sciences, with special emphases on women's health,  
6 cancer, hearing, regenerative medicine, and aging; and

7 WHEREAS, In its 50-year history, the SIU School of Medicine  
8 has trained over 5,000 caring physicians and is internationally  
9 recognized for its innovative teaching and testing techniques;  
10 and

11 WHEREAS, The SIU School of Medicine has received five  
12 international awards for excellence in medical education for  
13 student engagement, student assessment, social accountability,  
14 medical simulation, and curriculum innovation and is the only  
15 medical school worldwide to hold five such awards; and

16 WHEREAS, As a national leader in the percentage of  
17 graduates who enter primary care, the SIU School of Medicine  
18 has over 350 resident physicians and fellows training in 25  
19 medical specialty areas; and

20 WHEREAS, The health care professionals of SIU Medicine, a  
21 multi-specialty group practice comprised of 284 physicians and

1 their teams, provide comprehensive primary and specialty care  
2 for the people and communities of the region in medical  
3 offices, clinics, hospitals, and community venues; and

4 WHEREAS, The SIU School of Medicine has furthered its  
5 mission through the establishment of specific educational  
6 programs for physician assistants, medical scientists, and  
7 underrepresented groups in medicine; and

8 WHEREAS, The SIU School of Medicine has been recognized for  
9 its diversity efforts and percentage of graduates from  
10 underrepresented groups in medicine; and

11 WHEREAS, The SIU School of Medicine is a community-based  
12 medical school that meets its mission through formal  
13 partnerships and collaborations with hospitals, health  
14 systems, and community agencies throughout its 66-county  
15 region, which includes 2.2 million residents; and

16 WHEREAS, For 50 years, the SIU School of Medicine has  
17 educated and trained generations of physicians and scientists  
18 to serve central and southern Illinois; therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
20 HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
21 we declare April 4, 2020 as Southern Illinois University School

1 of Medicine Day in the State of Illinois; and be it further

2 RESOLVED, That this anniversary is a significant time to  
3 reflect on the past while considering the future contribution  
4 that the Southern Illinois University School of Medicine will  
5 make to improve the health of the people and communities of  
6 Illinois and the world through education, clinical care,  
7 medical research, and service; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
9 presented to the SIU School of Medicine as a symbol of our  
10 respect and esteem.