



HR0931

LRB101 22931 ECR 74027 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, African Americans have had a rich history in  
3 Rockford and in Illinois and have made significant  
4 contributions to our communities; and

5 WHEREAS, The Colored Soldiers Club under War Camp Community  
6 Services was founded and led by Dr. Richard S. Grant and his  
7 wife, Lelia, during World War I; and

8 WHEREAS, The club was chartered and converted into a  
9 community center named the Booker Washington Association in  
10 1919; and

11 WHEREAS, Throughout its history, the African-American  
12 Resource Center at Booker has provided consistent access to  
13 resources, programing, and services to uplift the community;  
14 and

15 WHEREAS, The African-American Resource Center at Booker is  
16 the oldest African-American community center in Illinois and  
17 gained historical landmark status in 2015; and

18 WHEREAS, The African-American Resource Center at Booker  
19 remains committed to its mission to provide an environment that  
20 promotes the quality of life, values, and the welfare of the

1 people of its community through education, art, and  
2 recreational and cultural programs, and to promote learning and  
3 sharing within the greater multicultural community; therefore,  
4 be it

5       RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
6 HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
7 that we declare November 14, 2020 as Booker Washington Center  
8 Day to commemorate the history of the African-American Resource  
9 Center at Booker and celebrate the Center's existence as it  
10 serves as a testament to the willingness of the entire  
11 community to help one another.