



HR0041

LRB102 11363 ECR 16696 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Illinois is a state that embraces its great
3 diversity, that commits itself to equity and inclusion for all
4 communities, and honors individuals that dream, dedicate
5 themselves, and build for future generations; and

6 WHEREAS, Muhammad Ali had an unrelenting spirit to dream;
7 he said "Impossible is not a fact. It is an opinion. It is not
8 a declaration. It is a dare. Impossible is potential."; and

9 WHEREAS, Muhammad Ali was brave; he said "What I suffered
10 physically was worth what I have accomplished in life. A man
11 who is not courageous enough to take risks will never
12 accomplish anything in life."; he persisted despite the
13 physical harm and political opposition he endured; and

14 WHEREAS, Muhammad Ali was humble; he said "I would like to
15 be remembered as a person who never looked down on those who
16 looked up to him."; he admitted he was a flawed human being
17 like everyone else, but he still strived to become a better
18 person every day; and

19 WHEREAS, Muhammad Ali demonstrated an inspiring work
20 ethic; he committed himself to his passion for boxing and
21 never stopped working to achieve success; he won the Olympic

1 gold medal and the heavy weight title three times; he won 56
2 matches in his 21 year professional career, making him
3 America's Champ; and

4 WHEREAS, Muhammad Ali was an inspiration for future
5 generations; he knew becoming America's Champ required
6 discipline and said "Don't count the days, make the days
7 count."; he did not let distractions keep him from his goal;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Muhammad Ali was a true American Patriot; he said
10 "All I can do is fight for truth and justice." and would hold
11 leaders that represented him to a standard of ethics; and

12 WHEREAS, Muhammad Ali was an example of a powerful
13 American life; he represented the power of a single individual
14 voice embodying the values that create champions; and

15 WHEREAS, Muhammad Ali was committed to uniting our country
16 and held deliberate conversations with others who held
17 opposing views; he said "I want to be remembered as a man who
18 tried to unite all humankind through faith and love."; and

19 WHEREAS, Muhammad Ali showed perseverance; even though he
20 had Parkinson's disease, which impaired his motor skills and
21 speech later in his life, he continued his work as a global

1 humanitarian and a goodwill ambassador; and

2 WHEREAS, Muhammad Ali was a dedicated philanthropist; he
3 helped people around the world who were battling hunger,
4 helped at local soup kitchens and hospitals, worked with the
5 Special Olympics and the Make A Wish Foundation around the
6 world, and vocalized support for Parkinson's disease research;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, Muhammad Ali had a commitment to service and
9 faith; he said "Truly great people in history never wanted to
10 be great themselves. All they wanted was the chance to do good
11 to others and be close to God."; he found strength in his
12 faith; and

13 WHEREAS, Muhammad Ali, known as America's champ, was a
14 devoted American Muslim; he said "Islam means Peace." and
15 brought honor to the United States by relying on courage he
16 found in his faith to stand up against injustices worldwide;
17 therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
19 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
20 we declare January 17, 2021 as Muhammad Ali Day in the State of
21 Illinois to commemorate this inspirational, ambitious,
22 hard-working, and courageous true African-American Muslim

1 patriot who upheld the values of our State and our country in
2 the most profound way.