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1 HOUSE RESOLUTION WHEREAS, Illinois county fairs highlight our State's rich 2 3 agricultural history, while preparing and educating our youth 4 and future leaders of tomorrow; and 5 WHEREAS, Across the State, almost every county fair was canceled entirely due to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020; and 6 7 WHEREAS, Determining factors for canceling county fairs 8 included the health and safety of fairgoers, government 9 limitations on fairs and festivals, and financial feasibility; 10 and 11 WHEREAS, There are normally 104 county fairs in Illinois 12 that produce agricultural education, community support, and 13 economic benefits; and 14 WHEREAS, Economic losses from canceled events were financially devastating for many counties; typically, county 15 fairs in the State of Illinois return over \$170 million in tax 16 17 revenue back to the State every year; and 18 WHEREAS, Beyond the economic impact, county fairs provide 19 many benefits to the community that are not related to 20 economic gains, including family friendly entertainment,

- 1 agricultural education, opportunities for local organizations
- 2 to get involved, traditional community events, fundraising for
- 3 local groups, and unique entertainment opportunities;
- 4 therefore, be it
- 5 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
- 6 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
- 7 we recognize the importance of county fairs; and be it further
- 8 RESOLVED, That the Illinois General Assembly will
- 9 encourage and support the continued success of county fairs
- 10 across the State.