



HR0160

LRB102 17745 LAW 23848 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to congratulate former U.S.
4 Representative Debra Anne "Deb" Haaland on her confirmation as
5 U.S. Secretary of the Interior; and

6 WHEREAS, Secretary Haaland was born in Winslow, Navajo
7 County, Arizona on December 2, 1960; she graduated from
8 Highland High School in Albuquerque, New Mexico in 1978; she
9 earned her Bachelor of Arts in English from the University of
10 New Mexico in Albuquerque, New Mexico in 1994; she earned her
11 Juris Doctor from the University of New Mexico School of Law in
12 2006; she is a registered member of the Laguna Pueblo; and

13 WHEREAS, Prior to her appointment, Secretary Haaland held
14 a number of leadership positions; she was a delegate at the
15 Democratic National Convention in 2008; she served as a tribal
16 administrator for the San Felipe Pueblo from 2013 to 2015; she
17 chaired the New Mexico Democratic Party from 2015 to 2017; she
18 was elected as U.S. Representative for New Mexico's 1st
19 Congressional District in 2018, making her one of the first
20 Native American women elected to the House of Representatives;
21 she was reelected in 2020; and

22 WHEREAS, Secretary Haaland was nominated for Secretary of

1 the Interior by President Biden on December 17, 2020; she was
2 confirmed by the Senate on March 15, 2021; and

3 WHEREAS, Secretary Haaland is the first Native American
4 Secretary of the Interior since the department's inception in
5 1849 and the first Native American cabinet member in U.S.
6 history; and

7 WHEREAS, Secretary Haaland's nomination is as symbolic as
8 it is historic; she will be responsible for managing the
9 Interior Department, a department once used as a tool of
10 oppression against the Indigenous peoples of the U.S.; her
11 unique background and experience will be an asset to all
12 American citizens; therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
14 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
15 we congratulate former U.S. Representative Debra Anne "Deb"
16 Haaland on her confirmation as U.S. Secretary of the Interior;
17 and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
19 presented to Secretary Haaland as an expression of our esteem
20 and respect.