



HR0232

LRB102 18152 MST 25581 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives wish to congratulate the city of Gibson City on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of its founding; and

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WHEREAS, Gibson City was founded as a village in 1871 as a mile-square lot, which is now the intersections of IL Routes 9, 47, and 54; and

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WHEREAS, The original land was purchased by Jonathan B. Lott, who built the first home and named the village after his wife, Margaret Gibson; and

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WHEREAS, The village was incorporated in 1872 as Gibson but was later changed to Gibson City; the first trustees of the village of Gibson were J. H. Collier, S. J. LeFevre, Bruce McCormick, and W. T. Kerr, with T.D. Spalding serving as the first mayor; and

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WHEREAS, Gibson City is located in Drummer Township, which was created in 1858, the second of 12 townships developed in Ford County; and

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WHEREAS, The first business in Gibson City was a grain office opened by William Moyer, who would later donate \$14,000

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1 for a city library, the William Moyer Library, which was built
2 in 1911; and

3 WHEREAS, Gibson City's businesses were ravished by fires
4 on January 29, 1883, but the town would rebuild and, at that
5 time, add the Burwell Opera House, which was known to be the
6 finest opera house in the State outside of Chicago, boasting a
7 stage, scenery, drop curtains, and gas lighting; this historic
8 building, while currently vacant, still stands with hopes of
9 being occupied again in the future; and

10 WHEREAS, Gibson City will celebrate its sesquicentennial
11 anniversary at North Park on May 2, 2021 with fun, food, and
12 music; in addition, the 1971 time capsule will be opened, and a
13 new time capsule will be buried, which will be opened in 2071;
14 therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
16 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
17 we congratulate the city of Gibson City on the 150th
18 anniversary of its founding and wish it many more wonderful
19 years; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
21 presented to Gibson City as a symbol of our respect and esteem.