



HR0506

LRB102 20699 LAW 29576 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to congratulate the Chicago Federation of
4 Labor (CFL) on the occasion of its 125th anniversary; and

5 WHEREAS, The Chicago Federation of Labor was issued its
6 charter by American Federation of Labor President Samuel
7 Gompers on November 9, 1896; and

8 WHEREAS, Chicago is the hometown of the American Labor
9 Movement and is the site of the Haymarket Affair, the Pullman
10 Strike, the Republic Steel Strike, and more Local 1 unions
11 than anywhere else; and

12 WHEREAS, The Chicago Federation of Labor has fought for
13 economic, racial, and social justice for workers in Chicago,
14 Cook County, and beyond for 125 years; and

15 WHEREAS, The Chicago Federation of Labor organized workers
16 across industries in the 19th and 20th centuries regardless of
17 race, ethnicity, or nationality; and

18 WHEREAS, One of the first presidents of the Chicago
19 Federation of Labor was John Fitzpatrick, an innovator whose
20 dedication to justice and passion for organizing sustained the

1 CFL for 40 years; and

2 WHEREAS, The Chicago Federation of Labor was guided by
3 President William A. Lee for nearly four decades after the
4 passing of President Fitzpatrick, navigating a changing world
5 during the civil rights movement and beyond; and

6 WHEREAS, The Chicago Federation of Labor merged with the
7 Cook County Industrial Union Council and other local labor
8 councils in 1962; and

9 WHEREAS, The Chicago Federation of Labor created and
10 managed radio station WCFL, the "Voice of Labor", from 1926 to
11 1978, bringing the latest news, information, and entertainment
12 to working people in Chicagoland and beyond; and

13 WHEREAS, The Chicago Federation of Labor has published the
14 Federation News for more than 100 years, first as a newspaper
15 and now as a quarterly magazine, bringing labor news to local
16 workers; and

17 WHEREAS, The Chicago Federation of Labor has brought
18 freedom fighters and labor leaders from around the world to
19 Chicago, including Cesar Chavez, Lech Walesa, and Nelson
20 Mandela; and

1 WHEREAS, In recent years, the Chicago Federation of Labor
2 has worked to pass increases to the minimum wage, fair
3 workweek, and paid sick leave laws, in addition to protections
4 to retirement security and a host of other policies to protect
5 workers; and

6 WHEREAS, The Chicago Federation of Labor supports its
7 approximately 300 affiliates and 500,000 union members in
8 Chicago and Cook County; and

9 WHEREAS, The Chicago Federation of Labor maintains the
10 spirit of solidarity that has guided the organization for 125
11 years, continuing the fight for justice for all workers;
12 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 recognize the Chicago Federation of Labor on the 125th
16 anniversary of its founding, and we further recognize the CFL
17 for its legacy of activism and solidarity with the working
18 people of Chicago and Illinois; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
20 presented to the Chicago Federation of Labor as an expression
21 of our esteem and respect.