



SR0092

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SENATE 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 a not a fact. It is an opinion. It is
8 not a declaration. It is a dare. Impossible is potential.";
9 and

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

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

20 WHEREAS, Muhammad Ali demonstrated an inspiring work
21 ethic; he committed himself to his passion for boxing and

1 never stopped working to achieve success; he won the Olympic
2 gold medal and the heavy weight title three times; he won 56
3 matches in his 21 year professional career, making him
4 America's Champ; and

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

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

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

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

20 WHEREAS, Muhammad Ali showed perseverance; even though he
21 had Parkinson's disease, which impaired his motor skills and

1 speech later in his life, he continued his work as a global
2 humanitarian and a goodwill ambassador; and

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

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

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

19 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL
20 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we declare January 17,
21 2022 as Muhammad Ali Day in the State of Illinois to
22 commemorate this inspirational, ambitious, hard-working, and

1 courageous true African-American Muslim patriot who upheld the
2 values of our State and our country in the most profound way.