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LRB103 40122 LAW 71784 r

1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, It is appropriate and right to celebrate the
3 diversity of cultures and heritages, as such celebrations
4 serve as a reminder that, despite our differing backgrounds,
5 everyone in Illinois is bound by a common hope for a better and
6 more inclusive future for our children; and

7 WHEREAS, The Arab American community has a long and
8 integral history in the United States; and

9 WHEREAS, Men and women of Arab descent have shared their
10 rich culture, strong work ethic, and dedication to education,
11 while embracing the American spirit of opportunity and helping
12 build a better State and nation for all; and

13 WHEREAS, For over a century, Arab Americans have been
14 making valuable contributions to every aspect of American
15 society, including medicine, law, business, technology,
16 government, and culture; and

17 WHEREAS, The history of Arab Americans in American life
18 often remains neglected and has been riddled with
19 misunderstanding and bigotry; and

20 WHEREAS, People of Middle Eastern descent began migrating

1 to the United States in significant numbers in the 1800s;
2 today, it is estimated that the current population of Arab
3 Americans is approximately four million people; therefore, be
4 it

5 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
6 HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE
7 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that we declare the month of April
8 2024 as Arab American Heritage Month in the State of Illinois;
9 and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That we recognize and celebrate the
11 contributions to cultural diversity, economic growth, and the
12 overall development of our State and nation made by the Arab
13 American community; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That we encourage all Illinoisans and their
15 families to learn about and celebrate the contributions of
16 Arab Americans to Illinois and the United States.