

HR0194

LRB103 31712 MST 60280 r

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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, On May 21, 1881, the United States Tennis 3 Association (USTA), originally known as the United States 4 National Lawn Tennis Association, was founded in New York 5 City, New York to create rules and standards for the emerging 6 game of lawn tennis; and

7 WHEREAS, The USTA is the nonprofit, national governing 8 body for tennis in the United States and leads the promotion 9 and growth of the sport at every level of play, from beginners 10 to professionals at the US Open; and

11 WHEREAS, The USTA is the largest tennis organization in 12 the world, with over 550,000 members from every corner of the 13 country; and

14 WHEREAS, The USTA proudly partners with local tennis 15 programs to showcase the important health, social, and 16 educational benefits of tennis and to make the sport available 17 to everyone, regardless of age, environment, condition, or 18 ability, through its USTA Adaptive grants; and

WHEREAS, The latest research by the Physical Activity Council shows that more than 23.6 million Americans played tennis in 2022, an unprecedented 33% increase in participation HR0194 -2- LRB103 31712 MST 60280 r over 2019 and the highest number of players since the PAC study began in 2007; and

3 WHEREAS, By increasing the accessibility of tennis for 4 Illinoisans of all ages and ability, the USTA has contributed 5 to making Illinois communities happier and healthier; and

6 WHEREAS, The USTA has declared the month of May as 7 National Tennis Month to encourage players, organizations, 8 facilities, retailers, tennis manufacturers, and more to 9 promote local programs and activities at parks and facilities, 10 to showcase tennis and spread the word about the sport and its benefits, and to help players and non-players alike find 11 12 courts and play opportunities in their communities; therefore, 13 be it

14 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE 15 HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that 16 we declare May 2023 as "Tennis Month" in the State of Illinois 17 and extend to all those affiliated with the USTA our sincere 18 best wishes for the future; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be 20 presented to the USTA as a symbol of our respect and esteem.