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1 SENATE RESOLUTION

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2 WHEREAS, Approximately one in six people globally 3 experience a disability, including neurological, cognitive, 4 neurodevelopmental, physical, visual, auditory, sensory, 5 respiratory, and processing difficulties; and

6 WHEREAS, Not all disabilities are visible, and people
7 living with non-visible disabilities often face barriers in
8 their everyday lives and may need additional assistance; and

WHEREAS, People with hidden disabilities may experience difficulty asking for and/or articulating their needs, and they may face stigmatization and lack of understanding when they choose to ask for help; and

WHEREAS, The Hidden Disabilities Sunflower is a globally recognized symbol for non-visible disabilities, and people may use this symbol, a visible sunflower design on a lanyard, card, or silicone wristband, to voluntarily and discreetly share that they have a disability and to signify that they may need increased aid; and

WHEREAS, Airports throughout Illinois have begun to implement the Sunflower Project, having a disability Sunflower decal visible upon entrance, Sunflower wristbands available

- 1 for passengers, and Sunflower pins available for employees to
- 2 wear to signify the airport supports people with hidden
- 3 disabilities; and
- 4 WHEREAS, The Illinois Senate can utilize its position to
- 5 spread awareness of the Sunflower project throughout the
- 6 State; therefore, be it
- 7 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL
- 8 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we declare the week of
- 9 October 20 through October 26, 2024 as Invisible Disabilities
- 10 Week in Illinois; and be it further
- 11 RESOLVED, That we urge State facilities to adopt the
- 12 Sunflower Project, including making Sunflower decals visible
- 13 upon entry, making Sunflower lanyards, wristbands, and/or
- 14 cards available, and educating staff on the meaning and
- desired goal of the Sunflower Project.