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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital was founded by entertainer Danny Thomas on February 4, 1962 when it opened its doors to children battling cancer and other life-threatening diseases including pediatric AIDS and pediatric sickle cell anemia; and

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WHEREAS, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital cares for all children regardless of race, religion, or creed and all patients are treated regardless of a family's ability to pay; and

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WHEREAS, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital freely shares its research findings and protocols with doctors and scientists all over the world; and

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WHEREAS, St. Jude Children's Hospital grew from the original star-shaped hospital built in Memphis in 1962 to a marvelous 2.5 million square foot campus today that includes the ALSAC Tower, Danny Thomas-ALSAC Pavilion, the Danny Thomas Research Tower, the ALSAC National Headquarters, and the Chili's Care Center for patient care and research; and

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WHEREAS, St. Jude Children's Hospital now operates worldwide, including a hospital in Peoria, that has treated

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1 hundreds of families; and

2 WHEREAS, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital has treated  
3 children from all 50 states and many counties around the world;  
4 and

5 WHEREAS, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital treats an  
6 average of 260 patients daily and nearly 7,800 patients  
7 annually at no cost to the families; and

8 WHEREAS, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital has a daily  
9 operating cost of \$1.7 million that is funded primarily by  
10 private contributions; and

11 WHEREAS, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital combines  
12 cutting edge technology with compassionate care for patients to  
13 find cures and provide world-class lifesaving care for children  
14 in crisis; and

15 WHEREAS, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital has led the  
16 way in changing the way the world treats pediatric cancer and  
17 has been instrumental in increasing overall childhood cancer  
18 survival rates from 20% in 1962 to 80% today including  
19 increasing the survival rate for acute lymphoblastic leukemia  
20 from 4% to 94%; and

1           WHEREAS, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital is the first  
2           and only pediatric cancer center to be designated as a  
3           Comprehensive Cancer Center by the National Cancer Institute  
4           and is the national coordinating center for the Pediatric Brain  
5           Tumor Consortium, Children's Cancer Survival Study, Pediatric  
6           Drug Discovery Consortium, and a national study of Sickle cell  
7           disease treatment; and

8           WHEREAS, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital counts  
9           among its staff a Nobel Prize winner for Physiology or  
10          Medicine, 3 National Academy of Sciences members, and 5 members  
11          of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of  
12          Sciences; and

13          WHEREAS, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital is  
14          fulfilling the hopes and dreams of founder Danny Thomas by  
15          serving as a shining light of hope for the world's sickest  
16          children where all children are treated and families never  
17          receive a bill; and

18          WHEREAS, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital is a model  
19          of compassion and care for sick children and families across  
20          the United States and world; therefore, be it

21          RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
22          NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that

1 we congratulate St. Jude Children's Research Hospital on its  
2 50th anniversary and hope for further groundbreaking treatment  
3 and care in the future; and be it further

4       RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
5 presented to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, the family  
6 of Danny Thomas including his children, Terre, Tony, and Marlo  
7 Thomas, and the Board of Directors of the Midwest Affiliate of  
8 St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Peoria as a symbol of  
9 our respect and admiration.