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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, Rich Koz has been known to millions across the nation, in the City of Chicago, and, of course, Berwyn, as legendary horror host Svengoolie for the last 35 years; and

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WHEREAS, Rich Koz first became a writer for the original "Svengoolie", Jerry G. Bishop, in 1973; and

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WHEREAS, Rich Koz first donned the legendary top hat, makeup, wig, and tuxedo costume of Svengoolie, armed with only a rubber chicken, first from 1979 to 1986 as the "Son of Svengoolie" on WFLD in Chicago, showing an ever-expanding, full range of science fiction and horror films on Saturday nights; and

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WHEREAS, Rich Koz wrote, acted in, and produced the innovative children's program "The Koz Zone" on WFLD from 1986 to 1988; and

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WHEREAS, Rich Koz was given the rights to be "Svengoolie" in his own right and has performed as the legendary host since 1994 on WCIU in Chicago; and

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WHEREAS, Rich Koz took "Svengoolie" to a national audience in 2011 on the Chicago based Me-TV Network; and

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1 WHEREAS, As Svengoolie, Rich Koz has brought countless
2 generations of families around the television to enjoy his
3 unique sense of humor and film knowledge; and

4 WHEREAS, Rich Koz has developed a cast of characters to
5 accompany Svengoolie in these tasks as the "King of Horror
6 Hosts", such as Tombstone and Kerwyn, to add humor and fun to
7 Saturday night sci-fi programing; and

8 WHEREAS, Rich Koz has dutifully continued the great Chicago
9 legacy of local programs featuring drive-in style late night
10 horror like Creature Features, Screaming Yellow Theater, and
11 others; and

12 WHEREAS, Rich Koz, through his syndicated show
13 "Stooge-a-Palooza", shared his life-long passion for the
14 comedy trio with new generations of Three Stooges fans; and

15 WHEREAS, Rich Koz has diligently and respectfully followed
16 in the path of great Chicago television innovators in local
17 programing like Frazier Thomas, Bill Jackson, Bob Bell, Ray
18 Rayner, and the beloved Jerry G. Bishop; and

19 WHEREAS, In 2004, Rich Koz was recognized as a member of
20 the National Association of Television Arts and Sciences Silver

1 Circle, honoring at least 25 years of broadcasting excellence;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, Rich Koz is highly respected in his field; he was
4 the recipient of the acclaimed Rondo Award as "Horror Host of
5 the Year" in 2009 and again in 2012 by the fans across the
6 nation in the horror community; and

7 WHEREAS, Rich Koz as Svengoolie is amongst Chicago's most
8 visible personalities making numerous public appearances
9 throughout the year; and

10 WHEREAS, Rich Koz's work-ethic and tirelessness proves he
11 is a native son of Illinois; and

12 WHEREAS, Rich Koz was a graduate of Maine East High School
13 and attended Northwestern University in Evanston; and

14 WHEREAS, Rich Koz has tirelessly performed all of these
15 tasks and continues to do so, despite suffering 2 heart
16 attacks; he recovered to be stronger and better than ever,
17 thanks largely to his family and fans; and

18 WHEREAS, Svengoolie's legendary set and coffin will be part
19 of the permanent display at the Museum of Broadcast
20 Communications in Chicago; and

1 WHEREAS, Without Svengoolie, Saturday nights in millions
2 of households across the nation would be like Halloween without
3 candy and scary movies; therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
5 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
6 we designate October 31, 2014 as Svengoolie/Rich Koz Day in the
7 State of Illinois in his honor of Rich Koz and his work; and be
8 it further

9 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
10 presented to Rich Koz as a symbol of our esteem and respect.