



HR1120

LRB098 21372 GRL 59808 r

1

HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Parenthood is a remarkable adventure, an
3 incredible responsibility, and a constant challenge; adopting
4 a child is one of the most transformative, selfless, and
5 rewarding acts of parenthood, which is magnified when adopting
6 3 children at the same time; and

7 WHEREAS, In the summer of 2013, out of their desire to
8 share their home and their love with children and understanding
9 that countless children around the world are in need of a
10 family, Will and Macy Cousineau made the life-changing decision
11 to adopt 3 young sisters from Latvia: 8-year-old Sindija,
12 7-year-old Linda, and 4-year-old Ieva; and

13 WHEREAS, As part of the months-long, involved, and
14 exhaustive adoption process, in December of 2013, Will and Macy
15 opened their home and their hearts to Sindija and Linda by
16 hosting them for 4 weeks; though the girls spoke very little
17 English, they were immediately kind, well-behaved, and loving
18 and Will and Macy bonded with them instantly; and

19 WHEREAS, During the girls' visit, Will and Macy took to
20 parenthood naturally and embraced the girls as their own; they
21 got to know as much as possible about Sindija and Linda and
22 their lives, took family trips to Chicago and St. Louis, and

1 taught the girls how to translate on an iPad; the 4 weeks
2 passed all too quickly and Will and Macy struggled to say
3 goodbye when the girls had to return to Latvia, unable even to
4 tell them they would be together again in a short time; and

5 WHEREAS, In April of 2014, Will and Macy got the call they
6 had been waiting months to receive, that, in just days, they
7 would reunite with Sindija and Linda and meet Ieva for the
8 first time; and

9 WHEREAS, Will and Macy made the nearly 20-hour journey to
10 Latvia to spend 3 weeks with the girls, the first of 3 trips to
11 the country as part of the adoption process; they spent time
12 with the girls' loving grandmother, traveled from their
13 orphanage to the Latvian capital of Riga, where they visited
14 Riga's old town, spent several days at the park, went to the
15 zoo and the Riga Circus, ate lunch at Cathedral Square, waded
16 in the Baltic Sea, climbed Gaizinkalns Hill, the highest point
17 in Latvia, and attended Easter service at St. Peter's Church,
18 one of the oldest monuments of medieval architectural in the
19 Baltic which was first mentioned in written documents in 1209;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, The girls could not wait to arrive in their new
22 home, asking Will and Macy every morning how many "good
23 mornings" until their arrival in America; and

1 WHEREAS, The Cousineau family, now 5 strong, returned to
2 the United States on May 1, 2014, just beginning their new life
3 together as a family; Will and Macy are learning more about
4 their new daughters and the girls' homeland and culture; and

5 WHEREAS, Sindija, Linda, and Ieva have seamlessly adapted
6 to their new surroundings and lives; Sindija's favorite color
7 is red and Linda's and Ieva's favorite color is violet; the
8 girls enjoy riding their new bicycles in Washington Park and
9 will soon begin a summer school program; and

10 WHEREAS, New parents Will and Macy Cousineau have forever
11 changed the lives of 3 young sisters from Latvia and made sure
12 the sisters remain together as a family; where language and
13 cultural differences may often create barriers, Will and Macy
14 have made their devotion to their new daughters unquestionably
15 clear through their unconditional love; therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
17 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
18 we congratulate Will and Macy Cousineau in bringing Sindija,
19 Linda, and Ieva into their lives and wish them all the best as
20 they continue their amazing journey as a family; and be it
21 further

1 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
2 presented to the Cousineau family as an expression of our
3 esteem and respect.