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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, Anyone, anywhere can be diagnosed with a brain  
3 tumor; brain tumors have no socioeconomic boundaries and do not  
4 discriminate among gender or ethnicity; and

5           WHEREAS, Brain tumors are the deadliest form of childhood  
6 cancer; the National Cancer Institute designates less than 4%  
7 of its budget to pediatric cancer research and only a fraction  
8 of that goes to brain tumor research; due to lack of funding,  
9 pediatric brain tumor treatment options have not changed in the  
10 last 30 years; and

11           WHEREAS, There are more than 120 different types of brain  
12 tumors; the exact cause for primary brain tumors are unknown,  
13 but there is ongoing research that is investigating the  
14 wide-ranging roles that genetics and environment may play; and

15           WHEREAS, Too many of Illinois' own vibrant children have  
16 died as the result of a brain tumor; the members of this body  
17 want to remember John, Leah, Liam, Maeve, Aidan, Donna, Gus,  
18 Jake, Abby, Danny, Octavio, Ross, Pat, Benny, Max, Miles, Hope,  
19 and the countless other children whose lives have been cut  
20 short or compromised by this disease; and

21           WHEREAS, Greater advancements to research and increased

1 awareness of the diseases will maximize the chances for finding  
2 a cure and minimize the number of deaths caused by brain tumors  
3 each year; and

4 WHEREAS, The members of this body honor the work that is  
5 currently being done in our own State at Ann and Robert H.  
6 Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago toward addressing the  
7 challenges of pediatric brain tumors; under the leadership of  
8 Dr. Jason Fangusaro, the Pediatric Brain Tumor Program at Lurie  
9 Children's is among the nation's top-ranked programs for  
10 clinical and scientific expertise and the quality of its  
11 services and staff, supporting patients and their families  
12 currently in treatment; and

13 WHEREAS, The American Brain Tumor Association and the  
14 National Brain Tumor Society currently recognize the month of  
15 May as National Brain Tumor Awareness Month; the Go Gray in May  
16 initiative focuses on pediatric brain tumors so that patients,  
17 families, and individuals become more informed about brain  
18 tumors, symptoms, treatment options, and considerations for  
19 caregivers alongside policy, trends, and research initiatives;  
20 therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
22 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
23 designate the date of May 15, 2015 as Go Gray in May in

1 Illinois Day in the State of Illinois and urge the citizens of  
2 this great State to Go Gray by wearing the color gray in  
3 support of all the courageous families in Illinois, who, with  
4 the advocacy and support of organizations such as the John  
5 McNicholas Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation, are working  
6 toward better care and a better cure; and be it further

7       RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
8 presented to the John McNicholas Pediatric Brain Tumor  
9 Foundation.