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1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Neurological disorders such as Parkinson's
3 Disease, Huntington's Disease, and Alzheimer's Disease have
4 social and economic impacts on both those affected and their
5 families; and

6 WHEREAS, Many Illinoisans are diagnosed with neurological
7 disorders each year; and

8 WHEREAS, The third annual Stars of Hope Walk is being held
9 on June 18, 2016 at Oak Ridge Park in Washington, Illinois; and

10 WHEREAS, The Stars of Hope Walk benefits patients and
11 families affected by neurological disorders; it includes a
12 two-mile walk, live music, family-friendly activities, a free
13 lunch, and more; and

14 WHEREAS, Thousands of families, friends, co-workers, and
15 neighbors come together each year to support three main
16 objectives: find cures for neurodegenerative diseases, bring
17 together people affected by the diseases, and raise awareness
18 and provide education; and

19 WHEREAS, The Stars of Hope Walk has raised almost \$200,000
20 since its inception two years ago; originally known as the

1 Central Illinois Team Hope Walk, it was started by Carl and
2 Linda Ross and Hans and Kelly Ritter in 2014 to raise awareness
3 of Huntington's Disease, support efforts toward finding a cure,
4 and to provide an opportunity for those affected to come
5 together; and

6 WHEREAS, These two families have been personally affected
7 by Huntington's Disease, a genetic and fatal disorder that
8 causes a progressive breakdown of nerve cells in the brain; and

9 WHEREAS, Kelly Ritter's two older sisters, and Carl Ross's
10 daughters, Laura and Lisa, have the disease, and their mother
11 passed away in 1999 from complications of Huntington's Disease;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, The event is being expanded this year to benefit
14 patients with other neurological disorders; proceeds will go to
15 the OSF Foundation and the Illinois Neurological Institute to
16 support patients and families in Central Illinois; therefore,
17 be it

18 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
19 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
20 congratulate the organizers of the Stars of Hope Walk for its
21 past success, and offer our support to help find a cure for
22 Huntington's Disease, Parkinson's Disease, and other

1 neurological disorders; and be it further

2 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
3 presented to the organizers of the Stars of Hope Walk, Carl and
4 Linda Ross, and Hans and Kelly Ritter, as an expression of our
5 esteem and respect.