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SENATE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, On August 14, 1945, the people of the United  
3 States received word of the end of World War II and greeted the  
4 news of the Allies' noble victory with joyous celebration,  
5 humility, and spiritual reflection; and

6           WHEREAS, The victory marked the culmination of an  
7 unprecedented national effort that defeated the forces of  
8 aggression, brought freedom to subjugated nations, and ended  
9 the horrors of the Holocaust; and

10           WHEREAS, These historic accomplishments were achieved  
11 through the collective service and personal sacrifice of the  
12 people of the United States, both those who served in uniform  
13 and those who supported them on the home front; more than  
14 400,000 Americans gave their lives in service to their country  
15 during World War II; and

16           WHEREAS, The date of August 14, 1945 marked not only the  
17 end of the war but also the beginning of an unprecedented era  
18 of rebuilding led by the United States to restore the societies  
19 of both its allies and former foes alike, as well as the  
20 formation of an array of organizations and institutions that  
21 helped to strengthen American democracy by promoting civic  
22 engagement, volunteerism, and service to community and

1 country; and

2 WHEREAS, The courage, dedication, self-sacrifice, and  
3 compassion of the "ordinary heroes" of the World War II  
4 generation continue to inspire our nation, especially those men  
5 and women who are currently serving around the world protecting  
6 our country; and

7 WHEREAS, The entire World War II generation, military and  
8 civilian alike, has provided a model of national unity and  
9 community that will continue to serve as a source of  
10 inspiration for current and future generations of Americans to  
11 come together to work for the continued prosperity of the  
12 United States and the world; therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL  
14 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we encourage the  
15 citizens of this State to remember both those who served in  
16 uniform and those who supported them on the home front during  
17 World War II; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That we designate the third Saturday of August in  
19 2015 as "Spirit of '45 Day" in the State of Illinois to  
20 commemorate the anniversary of the end of World War II on  
21 August 14, 1945.