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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, On January 15, 1867, the State of Illinois was one
3 of the first of 28 states to ratify the 14th Amendment; on July
4 9, 1868, the 14th Amendment was formally ratified to the
5 Constitution of the United States; and

6 WHEREAS, The 14th Amendment grants citizenship to all
7 persons born or naturalized in the United States; it prohibits
8 states from making or enforcing any law that abridges the
9 privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; it
10 prohibits states from depriving any person of life, liberty, or
11 property, without the due process of law; and

12 WHEREAS, The 14th Amendment abolished the Three-Fifths
13 Compromise, instead requiring that all persons be counted as
14 whole persons, regardless of race; it prohibited former
15 Confederacy civil and military officials from holding state or
16 federal office; and

17 WHEREAS, These guarantees of the 14th Amendment are the
18 bedrock from which modern civil rights movements were born; the
19 scope of the 14th Amendment continues to be heavily litigated
20 in civil rights cases in courts throughout the United States;
21 and

1 WHEREAS, To this day, African Americans still must overcome
2 racism and discrimination perpetuated by institutions and
3 individuals; food insecurity, failing educational systems,
4 health disparities, pay inequity, and poverty
5 disproportionately affect African Americans in the State of
6 Illinois and throughout the nation; and

7 WHEREAS, The culture of racism persists through white
8 supremacists, neo-Nazis, the Ku Klux Klan, and other groups of
9 hate, and the abhorrent speech and violence espoused by these
10 groups only serves to spread hate and divisions and further
11 hinders the progress that citizens of the United States have
12 made with civil rights; and

13 WHEREAS, Our great democracy thrives because of our
14 diversity in race, gender, faiths, sexual orientations, and
15 political beliefs; our nation was built by the labor and toil
16 of persons from many ethnic and racial backgrounds; therefore,
17 be it

18 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
19 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
20 commemorate the 150th anniversary of the ratification of the
21 14th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States of
22 America; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That we recognize not all citizens of this great
2 country experience the full guarantees of the 14th Amendment to
3 the Constitution of the United States; and be it further

4 RESOLVED, That we condemn those who seek to dismantle the
5 foundational values of civil rights, equality, and freedom in
6 our State and nation.