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HOUSE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Deidre Downs, a native of Birmingham, Alabama, was crowned Miss America in 2005; and

WHEREAS, As Miss America, Ms. Downs embarked on a national speaking tour to promote her platform of Curing Childhood Cancer and has won numerous awards for her community service platform, including being named national spokesperson for the Cure Search childhood cancer foundation; she is a Rhodes Scholar finalist, a magna cum laude graduate of Samford University, and an Echols Scholar at the University of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, She received the 2005 Public Service Award from the American Association of Cancer Research, President Bush's Daily Point of Light Award for community service, and the Quality of Life Award from the Miss America Organization recognizing the contestant with the greatest accomplishments in her community service platform; she is the creator of the Curing Childhood Cancer license plate, an official Alabama specialty car tag that has raised over \$95,000 for pediatric cancer research; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Downs is a member of the Jobs for America's Graduates Board of Directors, the national organization that Jobs for Illinois Graduates (JILG) is affiliated with; she is appearing in Springfield as a showing of strong support for the outstanding work of JILG on behalf of Illinois' young people; and

WHEREAS, JILG has shown exemplary performance in the high schools they serve throughout the State, serving students in high school and fostering their future success after graduation; therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
2 NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
3 we recognize and honor Miss America, Deidre Downs, for her
4 contributions on behalf of children's health and educational
5 well-being and thank her for her efforts and hard work with
6 Jobs for Illinois Graduates; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
8 presented to Deidre Downs as an expression of our gratitude.