



1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, A national anthem reflects the unity of a nation
3 by evoking and praising the history, traditions, and struggles
4 of its people; and

5 WHEREAS, Thousands of legal and illegal immigrants are
6 marching in cities across the United States expressing that
7 they too, want to be Americans; and

8 WHEREAS, Over the years, different versions of our anthem
9 have been produced in many musical styles, but never before in
10 another language; and

11 WHEREAS, English is a part of our American culture and is
12 part of what unites us and identifies us as a nation; and

13 WHEREAS, Our anthem's language should be respected, just as
14 Americans should respect other nations' anthems and their
15 languages; and

16 WHEREAS, Although diversity should be celebrated,
17 translating our national anthem has the adverse effect of
18 dividing us as a nation; and

19 WHEREAS, While our nation was in the midst of the War of
20 1812, Francis Scott Key wrote the Star-Spangled Banner; the
21 song is an important part of our history and identity; it
22 proclaims some of our national ideals in being the "land of the
23 free and the home of the brave"; for that reason, in 1931
24 Congress declared the Star-Spangled Banner our national
25 anthem; and

26 WHEREAS, Statements of our nation's unity, especially the
27 national anthem, should be sung in English as a sign of
28 reverence to this great nation; therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
2 NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
3 in this land of immigrants, as one American nation, we should
4 sing our national anthem together in English; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be delivered to
6 the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, the President
7 of the U.S. Senate, and each member of the Illinois
8 Congressional delegation.