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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The term arthritis refers to more than 100  
3 different diseases that affect areas in or around joints, as  
4 well as other parts of the body; arthritis is one of the most  
5 prevalent chronic health problems in the United States; and

6           WHEREAS, The Arthritis Foundation is the largest  
7 non-governmental contributor to arthritis research in the  
8 United States; the Arthritis Foundation has funded more than  
9 \$350 million in research grants since its inception in 1948;  
10 and

11           WHEREAS, The mission of the Arthritis Foundation is to  
12 improve lives through leadership in the prevention, control,  
13 and cure of arthritis; and

14           WHEREAS, 46 million adults, or one in five, in the United  
15 States have a diagnosis of arthritis; 300,000 children have  
16 some form of rheumatic condition in the United States; and the  
17 annual cost of arthritis is \$128 billion; and

18           WHEREAS, The Arthritis Foundation is working to inform the  
19 public, providing programs and services for people with  
20 arthritis; and

1           WHEREAS, The Arthritis Foundation funds research and  
2 ensures that the funding is used in the most strategic manner  
3 possible; therefore, be it

4           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
5 NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
6 proclaim May of 2007 and each year thereafter as Arthritis  
7 Awareness Month in the State of Illinois and encourage the  
8 citizens of the State to take time to research and understand  
9 this disease; and be it further

10          RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
11 presented to the Arthritis Foundation as a symbol of our  
12 respect for its hard work in this important field.