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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The Jewish Reconstructionist Congregation was  
3 inspired to build an energy sustainable synagogue by Rabbi  
4 Brant Rosen's sermon for Kol Nidre in September 2006 on  
5 "Walking the Walk: The Sacred Art of Energy Conservation"; and

6           WHEREAS, The Jewish Reconstructionist Congregation has now  
7 achieved the honored status as the "greenest Shul in America"  
8 with the first Platinum LEED rating for a synagogue from the  
9 U.S. Green Building Council; and

10           WHEREAS, The process by which the new building was created  
11 was truly magnificent, with Jewish Reconstructionist  
12 Congregation Board members, staff, and congregants being  
13 involved in every detail of planning, fundraising, relocating,  
14 design, and construction; and

15           WHEREAS, The architecture critic of the Chicago Tribune  
16 commended that the new Jewish Reconstructionist Congregation  
17 building "fuses the structural, the sustainable and the  
18 spiritual into a powerful whole" and "adds a rich new sense of  
19 possibility to the no-rules field of Jewish architecture"; and

20           WHEREAS, The new Jewish Reconstructionist Congregation  
21 building serves as a model in new construction with reduced

1 energy costs of about 45-percent less than a typical synagogue  
2 of the same size; and

3 WHEREAS, The combination of water efficient features are  
4 projected to save 40% on water consumption throughout the life  
5 of the building; and

6 WHEREAS, The Jewish Reconstructionist Congregation plans  
7 to educate its own congregation in sustainable practices, with  
8 the goal of reaching 100-percent participation in the years  
9 ahead, and plans to create a movement for sustainability and  
10 environmental consciousness in the larger Jewish community;  
11 therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
13 NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
14 congratulate the Jewish Reconstructionist Congregation on the  
15 occasion of its community dedication weekend on April 11-13,  
16 2008, celebrating its new sustainable synagogue; and be it  
17 further

18 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
19 presented to the Jewish Reconstructionist Congregation as an  
20 expression of our esteem and best wishes for continued success  
21 in the future.