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1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The ability to communicate effectively is vital to  
3 living a productive and enriching life; and

4 WHEREAS, Johns Hopkins University estimates nearly 20% of  
5 Americans 12 and older have a level of hearing loss that  
6 impedes communication; and

7 WHEREAS, The National Institutes of Health estimates as  
8 many as 3 out of 1000 individuals are born with hearing loss  
9 annually; and

10 WHEREAS, Child's Voice was founded in 1996 by 3 families  
11 who wanted to improve the lives of their children and is  
12 celebrating its 20th anniversary in February of 2016; and

13 WHEREAS, Up to 200 families in the Chicagoland area are  
14 served by Child's Voice programs yearly; and

15 WHEREAS, Child's Voice provides a support network for  
16 families through information, early intervention, and  
17 advocacy; and

18 WHEREAS, Child's Voice employs a dedicated team of  
19 teachers, specialists, and therapists to empower children from

1 infancy to age 8 with hearing loss to be successful in all  
2 educational and social settings by optimizing their listening,  
3 speaking, and academic skills; and

4 WHEREAS, Child's Voice recently initiated the Pediatric  
5 Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (PEHDI) Program to  
6 detect hearing loss in infants as soon as possible because  
7 early intervention is key to developing the auditory centers of  
8 a child's brain and learn listening and spoken language;  
9 therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
11 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
12 join Child's Voice in celebrating their 20th Anniversary and  
13 commend them on their accomplishments; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
15 presented to Child's Voice as an expression of our esteem and  
16 respect.