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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Max  
4 Jordan Chiswick, who passed away in Tel Aviv, Israel on  
5 January 7, 2025; and

6           WHEREAS, Max Chiswick was born in London, England on  
7 December 1, 1985; he moved with his family to Buffalo Grove  
8 when he was one year old; he graduated from Adlai E. Stevenson  
9 High School in Lincolnshire; he earned a bachelor's degree in  
10 electrical engineering from Northwestern University and a  
11 master's degree in electrical engineering at the  
12 Technion-Israel Institute of Technology in Haifa, Israel; and

13           WHEREAS, Max Chiswick was a renowned professional poker  
14 player; he was one of the most successful mid-stakes No-limit  
15 Texas Hold'em players in the world from 2008 to 2012; he  
16 completed a challenge to play three million hands of poker in a  
17 single year, including playing 990,000 hands of poker during  
18 the month of December 2009, a world record for hands of poker  
19 played in a single month that is believed to still stand today;  
20 and

21           WHEREAS, Max Chiswick traveled the world; he visited 76  
22 countries and had a particular fondness for the African

1 continent, which he visited 12 times, including a two month  
2 stay at the Sangha Lodge on the Dzanga-Sangha Special Reserve  
3 in the Central African Republic; he biked the length of Africa  
4 from Cairo to Cape Town on the Tour d'Afrique; he hiked  
5 Annapurna in Nepal and the length of Israel on the Israel  
6 Trail; and

7 WHEREAS, Max Chiswick proudly carried his Judaism  
8 throughout his travels; he found community and comfort in the  
9 global network of Chabad-Lubavitch centers that became his  
10 spiritual anchors around the world; he visited at least 36  
11 Chabad centers across the globe, a number he meticulously  
12 tracked on a website he built called chabad.earth; he made a  
13 commitment to wear tefillin regularly after the October 7,  
14 2023, terror attack; and

15 WHEREAS, Max Chiswick was a prolific collector of  
16 meaningful mementos and artwork, especially those created by  
17 lesser-known artists with disabilities and that depicted the  
18 distinguished physicist Albert Einstein, Judaica, the African  
19 continent, internet poker brands, and carrots, a vegetable  
20 that he consumed so much of that his skin occasionally turned  
21 orange and that he described as "the perfect snack...maybe too  
22 perfect"; and

23 WHEREAS, Max Chiswick established various websites to

1 document his eclectic interests, including hoteleggs.com,  
2 which rated eggs that he consumed at hotels and other  
3 lodgings, rotisserieride.com, which documented his planned  
4 bicycle ride from Los Angeles to New York City during which he  
5 would consume rotisserie chicken each day, overbet.ai, which  
6 hosted ideas at the intersection of artificial intelligence  
7 and game strategy, and 40k.earth, which allowed users to build  
8 their own travel maps and compare with friends; and

9 WHEREAS, Max Chiswick established the Expected Value  
10 Foundation, which helps people explore the concept of expected  
11 value in fun and practical ways; he founded Poker Camp, a  
12 program to teach artificial intelligence and better reasoning  
13 through poker that conducted several events in New York City  
14 and San Francisco; he co-founded the Artificial Intelligence  
15 Safety Awareness Foundation, a volunteer organization  
16 dedicated to educating the public about the benefits and risks  
17 of modern artificial intelligence; he taught an expected value  
18 workshop at Ecole les Hirondelles Mermoz in Dakar, Senagal  
19 during December 2024; and

20 WHEREAS, Max Chiswick had a unique and uncanny ability to  
21 make and maintain friendships; upon his death, tributes and  
22 remembrances poured in from across the globe by people who had  
23 the good fortune of crossing his path on this earth; and

1           WHEREAS, Max Chiswick's memory will be a blessing for the  
2 innumerable souls that had the privilege of being touched by  
3 the presence of a special, uncommon man; and

4           WHEREAS, Max Chiswick is survived by his parents, Peter  
5 and Ellen; his sister, Lisa; and countless friends in all  
6 corners of the world; therefore, be it

7           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
8 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
9 we mourn the passing of Max Jordan Chiswick and extend our  
10 sincere condolences to his family, friends, and all who knew  
11 and loved him; and be it further

12           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
13 presented to the family of Max Chiswick as an expression of our  
14 deepest sympathy.