



HR0790

LRB104 21160 RMO 35538 r

1

HOUSE RESOLUTION

2

WHEREAS, Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) programs are important tools for Illinoisans with disabilities and their families to save for the additional expenses that accompany living with a disability; ABLE accounts help to build health, quality of life, and independence for people with disabilities while protecting federal benefits and encouraging employment; and

9

WHEREAS, ABLE programs offer a diverse range of investment options, tax-deferred growth, and withdrawals free of state and federal taxes when those withdrawals are used for a broad range of qualified disability expenses, including education, job coaching, transportation, accessible equipment, health and wellness, and assistive technology; and

15

WHEREAS, In 2016, the Illinois General Assembly passed the enabling legislation for the Senator Scott Bennett Illinois Achieving a Better Life Experience account program (Illinois ABLE) to create a pathway to greater financial independence for Illinoisans with disabilities and their families; and

20

WHEREAS, The Office of the State Treasurer serves as the trustee and administrator for the Illinois ABLE program, and currently, more than 8,400 Illinois ABLE accounts have been

1 opened with more than \$132 million contributed since the  
2 launch of the program in January 2017; and

3 WHEREAS, The Illinois ABLE program has helped Illinoisans  
4 with disabilities and their families pay for approximately \$44  
5 million in qualified disability expenses to build greater  
6 self-sufficiency and to help meet the needs of individuals who  
7 live with disabilities in Illinois; and

8 WHEREAS, Under State Treasurer Michael W. Frerichs'  
9 leadership, the National ABLE Alliance (NAA) was established,  
10 which is a 19-member, bipartisan consortium that provides  
11 high-quality, low-cost ABLE programs to more than a quarter of  
12 ABLE-eligible people with disabilities nationwide; the  
13 consortium includes the states Alaska, Arkansas, Connecticut,  
14 Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan,  
15 Minnesota, Montana, Mississippi, Nevada, New Hampshire, New  
16 Jersey, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, and Rhode Island and the  
17 District of Columbia; and

18 WHEREAS, Today's average Illinois ABLE account balance of  
19 approximately \$13,600 is illustrative of the greater economic  
20 independence and financial freedom achieved by account owners  
21 with disabilities who are no longer trapped in a life of  
22 chronic financial insecurity due to asset restrictions imposed  
23 by their federal benefits programs; and

1           WHEREAS, National ABLE Savings Day is August 14, 2026;  
2 therefore, be it

3           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
4 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
5 we declare August 14, 2026 as Illinois ABLE Savings Day in the  
6 State of Illinois; and be it further

7           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
8 presented to the Office of the State Treasurer.