



HR0891

LRB104 21840 ECR 37627 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The International Council of Museums (ICOM)
3 established International Museum Day in 1977 to increase
4 public awareness of the vital role museums play in the
5 development of society; and

6 WHEREAS, Museums are incomparable places of discovery that
7 teach us about our past and open our minds to new ideas,
8 serving as essential pillars in building a better future; and

9 WHEREAS, Museums worldwide will celebrate International
10 Museum Day on May 18, 2026 under the theme "Museums Uniting a
11 Divided World", highlighting the potential of these
12 institutions to act as bridges across cultural, social, and
13 geopolitical divides; and

14 WHEREAS, Museums serve as trusted public spaces where
15 people encounter diverse stories and objects, fostering
16 dialogue, understanding, inclusion, and peace in times of
17 social fragmentation and polarization; and

18 WHEREAS, Illinois is home to a vast array of world-class
19 museums that safeguard our heritage and memory, offering
20 learning and reflection while providing welcoming spaces where
21 diverse voices can be heard; and

1 WHEREAS, These institutions contribute to the
2 democratization of knowledge and serve as guardians of
3 humanity's treasures for future generations while adapting to
4 modern social, economic, and ecological challenges; and

5 WHEREAS, The year 2026 marks the 80th anniversary of the
6 International Council of Museums, celebrating eight decades of
7 commitment to a world where natural and cultural heritage is
8 universally valued; and

9 WHEREAS, International Museum Day has grown into a global
10 phenomenon, with previous years seeing participation from over
11 37,000 museums across 158 countries, reaching hundreds of
12 millions of people through both in-person and digital
13 engagement; therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
15 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
16 we declare May 18, 2026 as Museum Day in the State of Illinois
17 in recognition of the profound impact museums have on our
18 communities and their power to transform the world around us;
19 and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That we encourage all citizens of Illinois to
21 visit our State's museums, participate in their programming,

1 and support their mission of fostering a more connected and
2 understanding society.