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LRB104 22498 MST 38943 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. is committed to
3 enhancing the quality of life within every community through
4 impactful public service, leadership development,
5 comprehensive education, and steadfast advocacy; and

6 WHEREAS, The dedicated members of the Iota Upsilon Sigma
7 Chapter of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc., located in DeKalb
8 and Rockford, actively promote critical water safety awareness
9 and work tirelessly to reduce the risk of drowning through
10 their exemplary initiative, the Swim 1922 program; and

11 WHEREAS, The Iota Upsilon Sigma Chapter established its
12 annual Swim 1922 Water Safety Clinic at the Harkins Aquatic
13 Pool in Rockford to honor the memory of James Leslie Harkins,
14 who tragically passed through a drowning incident, and to
15 transform his heartbreaking loss into a lasting legacy of
16 education, prevention, and hope; and

17 WHEREAS, The untimely loss of James Leslie Harkins serves
18 as a solemn, enduring reminder of the paramount importance of
19 comprehensive water safety education, formal swimming
20 instruction, and proactive community awareness to prevent
21 future tragedies; and

1 WHEREAS, Through the vital work of the Swim 1922 Water
2 Safety Clinic, hundreds of children and families have been
3 empowered with life-saving swimming skills, critical
4 resources, and foundational water safety instruction; and

5 WHEREAS, The memory of James Leslie Harkins continues to
6 serve as a powerful catalyst, inspiring community leaders,
7 volunteers, and organizational partners to collaborate
8 seamlessly to ensure that all youth have equitable access to
9 drowning prevention resources; and

10 WHEREAS, On July 11, 2026, the Iota Upsilon Sigma Chapter
11 of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. will officially dedicate its
12 2026 Swim 1922 Water Safety Clinic to the memory of James
13 Leslie Harkins, ensuring his legacy continues to safeguard the
14 youth of the Rockford community; therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
16 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
17 we commend the Iota Upsilon Sigma Chapter of Sigma Gamma Rho
18 Sorority, Inc. for their outstanding dedication to water
19 safety education and drowning prevention and for their
20 meaningful honoring of the life and legacy of James Leslie
21 Harkins; and be it further

22 RESOLVED, That we honor the memory of James Leslie

1 Harkins, whose legacy lives on through every child empowered
2 with the knowledge and skills to stay safe in and around water;
3 and be it further

4 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
5 presented to the Harkins Family as an expression of our
6 deepest sympathy and to the Iota Upsilon Sigma Chapter of
7 Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. as a token of our esteem and
8 appreciation for their service.