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1 SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Diwali is a five-day festival of lights that
3 takes place in autumn and is a festival of new beginnings,
4 celebrating good over evil and light over darkness; and

5 WHEREAS, The word Diwali comes from the Sanskrit word
6 Deepavali, meaning "rows of lighted lamps"; and

7 WHEREAS, Diwali is celebrated by millions of Hindus,
8 Jains, Buddhists, and Sikhs, and each religion marks different
9 events and stories; and

10 WHEREAS, Diwali is important to each faith for different
11 reasons; the common factor in the understanding of the holiday
12 is the triumph of good over evil, of "light over darkness";
13 this focus on light is why it is known as the festival of
14 lights; and

15 WHEREAS, Celebrants light small oil lamps and place them
16 around their homes; the lights symbolize the light within each
17 individual, the light that rids the soul of ignorance; and

18 WHEREAS, Diwali lies not just in lighting lamps but in
19 lighting lives through compassion, gratitude, and
20 togetherness; and

1 WHEREAS, Diwali reminds us of something deeper, that each
2 of us has a light within, capable of spreading warmth, hope,
3 and kindness; and

4 WHEREAS, The message of Diwali resonates with Illinoisans,
5 Americans, and citizens of the world now more than ever;
6 therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL
8 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we declare October 20,
9 2025 as Diwali Day in the State of Illinois in honor of the
10 people of the State and across the nation who celebrate this
11 significant holiday.