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LRB104 15970 LAW 29212 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, Jane Goodall, Ph.D., who passed away on October 1, 2025, was a world-renowned ethologist, conservationist, and humanitarian best known for her 65-year study of wild chimpanzees in Gombe, Tanzania; in the latter part of her life, she expanded her focus and became a global advocate for human rights, animal welfare, species and environmental protection, and many other crucial issues; and

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WHEREAS, Dr. Goodall was born Valerie Jane Morris-Goodall to Mortimer Herbert Morris-Goodall and Margaret Myfanwe (Joseph) Goodall in London, England on April 3, 1934; she was raised in Bournemouth, England, and she developed her passion for studying wildlife from early childhood; and

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WHEREAS, Dr. Goodall began her study of the wild chimpanzees at Gombe, Tanzania on July 14, 1960; her field studies led her to developing a unique understanding of chimpanzee behavior, including mating rituals, parenting, and warfare, and making the ground-breaking discovery that chimpanzees use tools; in recognition of the contributions she was making to science, she was accepted into a doctoral program without an undergraduate degree by the University of Cambridge in 1961, subsequently earning a Ph.D. in Ethology in 1965; her observations, covered across a series of long-form

1 articles she penned for National Geographic in the 1960s and
2 1970s, revolutionized humankind's understanding of and
3 connection to wild animals; her work also led to Tanzania
4 designating the Gombe Stream Reserve as a national park in
5 1978; and

6 WHEREAS, Dr. Goodall founded the Jane Goodall Institute
7 (JGI) in 1977 to initially support research at Gombe, and it
8 has evolved into one of the world's largest nonprofit global
9 research and conservation organizations, with 25 JGI offices
10 operating diverse programs around the world; she next founded
11 Roots & Shoots, her global humanitarian and environmental
12 program for young people of all ages; her program, which began
13 as an initiative in 1991 with 12 high school students in
14 Tanzania, has expanded into 75 countries; more recently, she
15 founded the Jane Goodall Legacy Foundation in 2017, ensuring
16 the ongoing stability of the core programs she created; and

17 WHEREAS, Dr. Goodall became a celebrated author, writing
18 32 books, including 15 children's books; her most recent
19 publication, *The Book of Hope: A Survival Guide for Trying*
20 *Times*, which expressed her optimism for the future of
21 humankind, was published in 2021 and has been translated into
22 more than 20 languages; and

23 WHEREAS, Dr. Goodall was the recipient of a number of

1 accolades, including being named a United Nations Messenger of
2 Peace, made a Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire
3 (DBE), and awarded the United States Presidential Medal of
4 Freedom by President Joseph R. Biden Jr., France's La Legion
5 d'honneur, the Benjamin Franklin Medal in Life Science,
6 Japan's Kyoto Prize, the Ghandi-King Award for Nonviolence,
7 the Medal of Tanzania, and the Tyler Prize for Environmental
8 Achievement; and

9 WHEREAS, Dr. Goodall is survived by her son, Hugo Eric
10 Louis van Lawick; her sister, Judy Waters; and three
11 grandchildren; and

12 WHEREAS, Dr. Goodall leaves a legacy of courage,
13 conviction, and conservation, and her life's work will
14 continue through the organizations she established and the
15 countless individuals she inspired; therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL
17 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we declare April 3,
18 2026 as Jane Goodall Day in the State of Illinois in
19 recognition of the life and work of Jane Goodall, Ph.D. and the
20 importance of conservation, sustainability, and living in
21 peace with our environment.