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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The Illinois Senate proudly recognizes organizations whose work strengthens our communities, empowers young people, and invests in the leaders of tomorrow; and

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WHEREAS, Boys & Girls Clubs across Illinois serve approximately 75,000 young people in 51 communities statewide, providing safe and supportive environments during critical out-of-school hours and offering academic support, literacy programming, and mentorship that strengthens early learning and educational outcomes; in 2024, Boys & Girls Clubs in Illinois communities served more than 1,691,325 meals and snacks to young people, and with the State's past investment, Clubs provided almost 10,000 additional youths a place to belong; and

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WHEREAS, The impact of Boys & Girls Clubs on academic, personal, and professional achievement is profound, with a reported 95% of Club youth in Illinois expected to graduate high school and 91% planning to go to college; and

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WHEREAS, The Illinois Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs serves as the statewide network and advocacy voice for Clubs operating throughout Illinois, supporting them in delivering high-quality, affordable programming to young people in urban,

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1 suburban, and rural communities; and

2 WHEREAS, Investing in Boys & Girls Clubs represents a
3 strong partnership between the State of Illinois, local
4 communities, families, and the private sector, and expanding
5 access to out-of-school programming will support working
6 families, strengthen communities, and help ensure that all
7 young people have access to the opportunities they need to
8 learn, grow, and succeed; and

9 WHEREAS, The Illinois Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs and
10 its member organizations are visiting Springfield to advocate
11 for the young people of Illinois and demonstrate the statewide
12 commitment to youth development embodied by Boys & Girls
13 Clubs; therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL
15 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we declare March 24,
16 2026 as Illinois Boys & Girls Clubs Day in the State of
17 Illinois, in recognition of the Illinois Alliance of Boys &
18 Girls Clubs Advocacy Day in Springfield and in celebration of
19 the profound contributions Boys & Girls Clubs make to young
20 people and communities across our State; and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That we commend the Illinois Alliance of Boys &
22 Girls Clubs and its member organizations, staff, and

1 volunteers for their dedication to providing safe, accessible,
2 and enriching programming that helps young people across
3 Illinois communities achieve their full potential; and be it
4 further

5 RESOLVED, That we encourage continued investment and
6 support for Boys & Girls Clubs throughout Illinois,
7 recognizing that their work is essential to the health,
8 safety, academic success, and future prosperity of our State's
9 young people and the communities they call home; and be it
10 further

11 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
12 delivered to the Illinois Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs as a
13 symbol of our esteem and respect.