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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, Down syndrome is a genetic condition that occurs in approximately one in 1,100 live births worldwide according to the World Health Organization; and

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WHEREAS, Down Syndrome occurs in approximately one in 700 live births in the United States according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and

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WHEREAS, It is difficult to determine the number of individuals currently living with Down syndrome worldwide; however, some sources estimate the number to be more than six million; and

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WHEREAS, The most common form of Down syndrome, trisomy 21, is due to an error in cell division just prior to or during conception, with the 21st chromosome dividing in three instead of two, resulting in a person being born with 47 instead of 46 chromosomes in each cell; and

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WHEREAS, Early intervention, appropriate speech, physical and occupational therapies, and quality education programs enable individuals with Down syndrome to adapt and thrive; and

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WHEREAS, Thanks to advances in medical treatments and

1 continuing research, life expectancy for individuals with Down
2 syndrome worldwide has increased dramatically, with a large
3 majority living beyond 50 years of age; and

4 WHEREAS, Individuals with Down syndrome consistently prove
5 their ability to overcome obstacles; and

6 WHEREAS, With interventions and programs and the support
7 of family and community, individuals with Down syndrome attend
8 school and participate in postsecondary opportunities, with
9 many going to college, obtaining full-time employment,
10 entering into marriage, and fully participating in their
11 communities; and

12 WHEREAS, Individuals living with Down syndrome have
13 excelled in various fields, becoming global influencers,
14 fashion designers, lobbyists, accomplished musicians,
15 teachers, leaders of large non-profits, and small business
16 entrepreneurs; therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
18 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
19 we declare March 21, 2022 as "Down Syndrome Day" in the State
20 of Illinois; and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That we recognize the numerous contributions

1 that individuals with Down syndrome and their families make,
2 not only in our great State but across the globe.