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LRB103 31886 LAW 60557 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, It is appropriate and right to celebrate the diversity of cultures and heritages, as such celebrations serve as a reminder that, despite our differing backgrounds, everyone in Illinois is bound by a common hope for a better and more inclusive future for our children; and

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WHEREAS, The Arab American community has a long and integral history in the United States; and

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WHEREAS, Men and women of Arab descent have shared their rich culture, strong work ethic, and dedication to education, while embracing the American spirit of opportunity and helping build a better State and nation for all; and

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WHEREAS, For over a century, Arab Americans have been making valuable contributions to every aspect of American society, including medicine, law, business, technology, government, and culture; and

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WHEREAS, The history of Arab Americans in American life often remains neglected and has been riddled with misunderstanding and bigotry; and

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WHEREAS, People of Middle Eastern descent began migrating

1 to the United States in significant numbers in the 1800s;
2 today, it is estimated that the current population of Arab
3 Americans is approximately four million people; therefore, be
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5 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
6 HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
7 we declare the month of April 2023 as Arab American Heritage
8 Month in the State of Illinois; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That we recognize and celebrate the
10 contributions to cultural diversity, economic growth, and the
11 overall development of our State and nation made by the Arab
12 American community; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That we encourage all Illinoisans and their
14 families to learn about and celebrate the contributions of
15 Arab Americans to Illinois and the United States.