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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The State of Illinois has played a meaningful role
3 in developing the American art form of barbershop singing; and

4 WHEREAS, The national organization known as the Barbershop
5 Harmony Society (BHS), born in 1938 as the Society for the
6 Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing
7 in America, Inc., enjoyed strong support from communities
8 across Illinois as interest in the art form spread; and

9 WHEREAS, The Bloomington Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony
10 Society, also known as the Sound of Illinois, became one of the
11 earliest to form in Illinois on April 27, 1942; and

12 WHEREAS, The Sound of Illinois mission is to bring Central
13 Illinois men together in harmony and fellowship to enrich lives
14 through singing; and

15 WHEREAS, The Sound of Illinois, one of the Central Illinois
16 arts community's oldest organizations, has brought enjoyment
17 of four-part acappella singing to thousands of Central Illinois
18 audiences through its annual shows, singing valentines, and
19 many performances; and

20 WHEREAS, Thousands of Illinois high school singers have
21 participated in annual Youth In Harmony education workshops and

1 performances offered free by the Sound of Illinois since 1999
2 to support vocal music in high schools; and

3 WHEREAS, The Sound of Illinois chorus will again represent
4 the State of Illinois as a contestant in Portland, Oregon, in
5 2012, the fifth consecutive year and eighth time overall that
6 the Sound of Illinois has been the Illinois entry in
7 international competition; and

8 WHEREAS, The Barbershop Harmony Society recognizes the
9 Bloomington Chapter as the third best chapter among 800 in the
10 entire organization, based on a broad measure of activities;
11 therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
13 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
14 we proclaim April 21-27, 2012 as Sound of Illinois Week in the
15 State of Illinois, to recognize the 70th anniversary of the
16 Bloomington Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society and its
17 passion to serve its Society, its audiences, students, and
18 citizens across the State; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
20 presented to the Bloomington Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony
21 Society as a symbol of our respect and esteem.