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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of 3 Representatives are pleased to congratulate First Lady 4 Michelle Obama on her success in leading the charge against 5 childhood obesity; and

WHEREAS, Federal health authorities reported a 43% drop in the obesity rate among 2 to 5-year-old children in the past decade - the first broad decline in an epidemic that often leads to life-long struggles with weight, along with higher risks for cancer, heart disease, and stroke; approximately 8% of 2 to 5-year-olds were obese in 2012 - down from 14% in 2004; and

WHEREAS, Children now consume fewer calories from sugary beverages than they did in 1999; more women are breast-feeding, which can lead to a healthier range of weight gain for young children; and research has chronicled a drop in overall calorie intake for children in the past decade; and

WHEREAS, First Lady Michelle Obama has led a push to change young children's eating and exercise habits and 10,000 child care centers across the country have signed on; she remarked that she was "...thrilled at the progress we've made over the last few years in obesity rates among our youngest Americans.";

- 1 and
- 2 WHEREAS, The decline in the childhood obesity rate should
- 3 be viewed as just the start of a sustained campaign to improve
- 4 the health and well-being of children and not as a conclusion
- 5 to it; therefore, be it
- 6 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
- 7 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
- 8 we congratulate First Lady Michelle Obama on her success in
- 9 leading the charge against childhood obesity; and be it further
- 10 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
- 11 presented to First Lady Michelle Obama as an expression of our
- 12 esteem and respect.