



HR1097

LRB098 21111 GRL 58928 r

1

HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are pleased to congratulate the Bochasanwasi
4 Shri Akshar Purushottam Swaminarayan Sanstha (BAPS) Shri
5 Swaminarayan Mandir Complex on the 10th anniversary of its
6 inauguration; and

7 WHEREAS, The BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir is a Hindu
8 temple located in Bartlett which was built by BAPS Swaminarayan
9 Sanstha; and

10 WHEREAS, The BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir is one of the
11 largest traditional Hindu Mandir of stone and marble to be
12 constructed in the United States; and

13 WHEREAS, This masterpiece of ancient design and
14 workmanship is a testimony to the sheer dedication and devotion
15 of over 1,700 volunteers from the Chicagoland area and many
16 more from 3 continents; it was constructed from start to finish
17 in just 16 months; and

18 WHEREAS, The Mandir is constructed of Turkish limestone and
19 Italian marble that was shipped to India and hand-carved; the
20 stone was subsequently shipped to Chicago and was assembled as
21 a giant 3-dimensional jigsaw puzzle; and

1 WHEREAS, On August 8, 2004, the Mandir was inaugurated by
2 Pramukh Swami Maharaj, the spiritual leader of BAPS
3 Swaminarayan Sanstha, an international Hindu organization
4 belonging to the Swaminarayan sect of Hindu; and

5 WHEREAS, The Mandir was built according to the ancient
6 canons of Hindu architecture, known as Shilpa-Shastras, and
7 exemplifies a system of construction that has been proven to
8 withstand the tests of time, thus providing a place that will
9 continue to generate memories and experience for future
10 generations; and

11 WHEREAS, On May 18, 2005, the BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir
12 of Chicago was awarded the "Best Building Suburb" award by the
13 Chicago Building Congress for displaying distinctive design,
14 outstanding construction, and a positive impact on the
15 surrounding community; and

16 WHEREAS, Visitors to the Mandir can experience the various
17 facets of Hindu rites and rituals, as well as the core
18 philosophical precepts of the religion; and

19 WHEREAS, Festivals are celebrated on a grand scale at the
20 Mandir throughout the year, including Diwali, Swaminarayan
21 Jayanti, Ram Navmi, Janmashtmi, Shivratri, Holi, and Ganesh

1 Chaturi; in marking the Hindu New Year, the grandest of Hindu
2 festivals, Diwali and Annakut, are celebrated with dazzling
3 light, sights, smells, and sounds; and

4 WHEREAS, For the past 10 years, the BAPS Shri Swaminarayan
5 Mandir has been a place of worship and prayer for followers of
6 Hinduism; therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
8 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
9 we congratulate the BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir Complex on
10 the 10th anniversary of its inauguration; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
12 presented to the BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir Complex as a
13 symbol of our esteem and respect.