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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha is a spiritual, volunteer-driven organization dedicated to improving society through individual growth by fostering the Hindu ideals of faith, unity, and selfless service; and

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WHEREAS, The BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir in Bartlett was inaugurated by His Holiness Pramukh Swami Maharaj in 2004; the Mandir has served as a center for spirituality, harmony, and service for its members and the surrounding community within Illinois; and

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WHEREAS, Over the past 13 years, The BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir has been, for thousands of visitors from all across the United States of America, a center for learning and experiencing Indian culture, heritage, architecture, and Hindu religion and customs; and

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WHEREAS, His Holiness Pramukh Swami Maharaj appointed His Holiness Mahant Swami Maharaj as his spiritual successor and the sixth Guru of the BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Santha; and

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WHEREAS, His Holiness Mahant Swami Maharaj will arrive in the United States of America for the first time as the leader and guru of the BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha; on Sunday July 9,

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1 2017, he will celebrate the auspicious occasion of Guru Purnima
2 at the BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir in Bartlett; and

3 WHEREAS, For millions of Hindus from around the world, Guru
4 Purnima marks a day when they honor and express gratitude for
5 their spiritual and academic teachers, as both pay a critical
6 role in providing true knowledge; therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH GENERAL
8 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we declare July 9, 2017
9 as "His Holiness Mahant Swami Maharaj Day" in honoring and
10 welcoming His Holiness Mahant Swami Maharaj to the great State
11 of Illinois; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
13 presented to His Holiness Mahant Swami Maharaj as a symbol of
14 our respect and esteem.