



HJ0112

LRB101 11800 MST 58587 r

1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The State of Illinois counts within its  
3 extraordinary history the American Indians, including the  
4 Vinyard Indian Settlement of Shawnee Indians (Vinyard Indian  
5 Settlement), who inhabited the lands that would become Illinois  
6 since time immemorial; and

7 WHEREAS, The Vinyard Indian Settlement, formerly known as  
8 part of Chief Sedowii's (Setteedown) Shawnees, is a political  
9 successor to the signatories of treaties between colonial and  
10 tribal entities under which large areas of land in the states  
11 of Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois were ceded to the United States;  
12 and

13 WHEREAS, The members of the Vinyard Indian Settlement  
14 continue to live in the State of Illinois, as their ancestors  
15 have since time immemorial, before colonial records were kept  
16 and after the removal of many tribal members to the Oklahoma  
17 Indian Territory; and

18 WHEREAS, The Vinyard Indian Settlement has continued to  
19 exist as a separate and distinct community as recorded in oral  
20 history and in Colonel William M. Cockrum's 1907 "Pioneer  
21 History of Indiana", in which he records the Wabash and Ohio  
22 River Shawnee community areas near Shawneetown 1807-1811; and

1           WHEREAS, Ancestral homelands of the Vinyard Indian  
2 Settlement significantly stretch from Saline Landing on the  
3 Ohio River south to Cave-In-Rock, including the bluff areas  
4 along the Ohio River and in a line northwest to the Eagle  
5 Mountains, including the Garden of the Gods; and

6           WHEREAS, Many of our rivers, streams, forests, trails,  
7 islands, towns, and landmarks bear important cultural ties to  
8 the Shawnee people; and

9           WHEREAS, The Vinyard Indian Settlement members currently  
10 reside in Hardin, Gallatin, Saline, White, and Pope Counties  
11 and hold numerous cultural ceremonies throughout the year; and

12           WHEREAS, The Shawnee people have, through their cultural  
13 heritage, historical influence, and participation in public  
14 life, helped to make the State of Illinois the great state that  
15 it is today and have contributed to the prosperity and freedom  
16 of our country; and

17           WHEREAS, Formal recognition will support the Vinyard  
18 Indian Settlement's efforts to provide for the well-being of  
19 its members and the surrounding communities; therefore, be it

20           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE

1 HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE  
2 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that we recognize the Vinyard Indian  
3 Settlement of Shawnee Indians as an Indian tribe; and be it  
4 further

5 RESOLVED, That we urge the Vinyard Indian Settlement of  
6 Shawnee Indians and its members be accorded all the rights and  
7 privileges that come with being recognized as an Indian tribe;  
8 and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That this resolution should not be interpreted as  
10 creating any specific rights to land, entitlements, or any  
11 special privileges related to gaming.