



HR0350

LRB104 13662 LAW 26317 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, It is highly fitting that the members of the
3 Illinois House of Representatives honor and recognize
4 individuals whose lives reflect extraordinary courage,
5 resilience, and the power to inspire others through acts of
6 strength, humor, and compassion; and

7 WHEREAS, Ethan Tkalec, a truly remarkable individual, has
8 led a life marked by an extraordinary spirit that has deeply
9 touched everyone privileged to know him; and

10 WHEREAS, From a young age, Ethan Tkalec has expressed a
11 love of music and dance, demonstrating joy in learning and
12 enthusiasm for school; he has also treasured spending time
13 with his grandparents, family, and friends, always bringing
14 laughter and warmth to those around him; and

15 WHEREAS, Ethan Tkalec is known for his cheerful nature,
16 quick wit, and remarkable sense of humor; he especially enjoys
17 listening to classic rock music as well as the sounds of Johnny
18 Cash and Green Day; before his condition limited his mobility,
19 he and his father embarked on adventurous summer road trips,
20 visiting 42 states together and creating lifelong memories;
21 and

22 WHEREAS, At the age of six, Ethan Tkalec was diagnosed

1 with Giant Axonal Neuropathy (GAN), an extremely rare
2 neurodegenerative disorder affecting approximately 75
3 individuals worldwide that progressively impairs the nervous
4 system, impacting muscle function, organ function, speech, and
5 mobility; and

6 WHEREAS, In the face of these immense physical challenges,
7 Ethan Tkalec has continued to inspire others through his
8 gentle and kind nature, his unwavering positivity, and the
9 light he brings into every room he enters; and

10 WHEREAS, Ethan Tkalec's story is not only one of medical
11 adversity but of immense courage; in the absence of any known
12 treatment or medical protocol for GAN, his care often requires
13 navigating unknowns with grace, patience, and perseverance;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, Through his example, Ethan Tkalec has taught and
16 continues to teach those around him the true meaning of
17 gratitude, strength, and love; his resilience and capacity to
18 bring joy amidst the most trying of circumstances continues to
19 uplift all who meet him; and

20 WHEREAS, For Ethan Tkalec, the past five years have posed
21 increased challenges, yet his unwavering spirit continues to

1 shine through, demonstrating a profound legacy of courage and
2 humanity; therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
4 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
5 we honor and recognize Ethan Tkalec for his extraordinary
6 life, his strength of character, and the boundless inspiration
7 he provides to his family, community, and all the people of the
8 State of Illinois; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That we recognize Ethan Tkalec's life as a
10 testament to bravery, resilience, and the enduring power of
11 joy as he celebrates his birthday on May 28, 2025; and be it
12 further

13 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
14 presented to Ethan Tkalec and his family as an expression of
15 our esteem and admiration.