



HR0394

LRB104 13936 ECR 26849 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The Month of Francophonie, known as Le Mois de la
3 Francophonie, is observed throughout the month of March to
4 celebrate the diversity, vitality, and shared values of the
5 global Francophone community; and

6 WHEREAS, The International Francophonie Day, known as
7 Journee Internationale de la Francophonie, is celebrated by
8 the International Organization of La Francophonie and across
9 the globe annually on March 20 to recognize the 369 million
10 French speakers worldwide and to honor the cultural,
11 linguistic, and historic contributions of French-speaking
12 peoples; and

13 WHEREAS, The State of Illinois is home to a rich and
14 lasting French heritage rooted in its early exploration,
15 settlement, and trade by French colonists in the 17th and 18th
16 centuries, with historical ties still visible in towns,
17 traditions, and in the names of places across the State; and

18 WHEREAS, Illinois is a proud member of the French Heritage
19 Corridor, a multistate and binational cultural initiative
20 dedicated to highlighting and preserving the historic presence
21 and legacy of French explorers, traders, and settlers along
22 the Mississippi River and beyond; and

1 WHEREAS, Communities across Illinois, including those in
2 Cook County, Lake County, Kankakee County, Tazewell County,
3 and Randolph County, continue to reflect and honor the State's
4 French and Francophone influence through cultural
5 institutions, historic sites, education, and public events;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, The continued recognition of Francophone culture
8 enhances the State's commitment to multiculturalism,
9 education, and international engagement; therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
11 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
12 we declare March 2025 as French Heritage Month and March 20,
13 2025 as French Heritage Day in the State of Illinois to
14 celebrate the linguistic and cultural heritage of
15 French-speaking communities and to promote the values of
16 diversity, cooperation, and cultural exchange; and be it
17 further

18 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
19 delivered to the Consulate General of France in Chicago and
20 the Illinois Office of Tourism as a symbol of our esteem and
21 respect.