



HR0752

LRB104 21229 ECR 35830 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Cerebral palsy is the most common lifelong  
3 physical disability in the world, affecting more than one  
4 million Americans and an estimated more than 50 million people  
5 globally; and

6 WHEREAS, Cerebral palsy is a group of neurological  
7 disorders affecting motor and developmental skills that is  
8 neither a genetic nor contagious condition; rather, it is  
9 caused due to brain damage or abnormal brain development  
10 during gestation, birth, or soon thereafter; and

11 WHEREAS, The symptoms of cerebral palsy vary greatly from  
12 individual to individual, with symptoms diversely impacting  
13 coordination, balance, and movement, creating lifelong and  
14 progressive changes for a person living with cerebral palsy;  
15 and

16 WHEREAS, National Cerebral Palsy Awareness Month was  
17 established in 2006 by Reaching for the Stars (RFTS), a  
18 non-profit educational advocacy group led by parent volunteers  
19 under the guidance of the Cerebral Palsy Foundation who wanted  
20 to change the future of cerebral palsy; and

21 WHEREAS, The Cerebral Palsy Foundation has been dedicated

1 to enhancing the lives of millions of people worldwide with  
2 cerebral palsy through cutting-edge research, improving early  
3 detection, and changing lives through policy change and public  
4 investment; and

5 WHEREAS, There is a significant lack of resources and  
6 funding for cerebral palsy research investment and better  
7 healthcare; and

8 WHEREAS, The Cerebral Palsy Foundation is committed to  
9 funding innovative research that improves the lives of  
10 individuals with cerebral palsy through research grants and  
11 donations; and

12 WHEREAS, National Cerebral Palsy Awareness Month further  
13 encourages individuals to consider ways to be more inclusive  
14 towards those who live with the condition, and, most  
15 importantly, this observance allows people to learn how they  
16 can become long-term allies of the cerebral palsy community;  
17 and

18 WHEREAS, National Cerebral Palsy Awareness Month is held  
19 annually in March to provide an educational opportunity for  
20 those outside the cerebral palsy community to learn about the  
21 condition and about life with cerebral palsy; and

1           WHEREAS, Individuals with cerebral palsy make diverse and  
2 significant contributions to their communities by acting as  
3 advocates for systemic change and by raising awareness and  
4 fostering inclusive environments within their families,  
5 workplaces, and communities; and

6           WHEREAS, "Just Say Hi!" is an award-winning, PK-12  
7 school-wide disability inclusion curriculum and program  
8 created by the Cerebral Palsy Foundation that provides schools  
9 with an intentional, evidence-based pathway to disability  
10 inclusion, fostering learning in a welcoming environment; and

11           WHEREAS, National Cerebral Palsy Awareness Day is also  
12 observed every year on March 25th; therefore, be it

13           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
14 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
15 we declare the month of March 2026 as Cerebral Palsy Awareness  
16 Month in the State of Illinois to bring awareness to those  
17 living with cerebral palsy and to prioritize disability  
18 inclusion and education; and be it further

19           RESOLVED, That we celebrate the 20th anniversary of  
20 National Cerebral Palsy Awareness day; and be it further

21           RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be

1 presented to the Cerebral Palsy Foundation and United Cerebral  
2 Palsy as symbols of our esteem and respect.