



HR0910

LRB104 21866 LAW 37694 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, It is highly fitting that the members of the
3 Illinois House of Representatives pay honor and respect to
4 those institutions of higher learning that have demonstrated
5 an unwavering commitment to educational excellence and social
6 mobility for the citizens of the State of Illinois; and

7 WHEREAS, National Louis University (NLU) is celebrating
8 its 140th anniversary in 2026, marking nearly a century and a
9 half of innovative and professional education that builds
10 careers, cultivates leaders, and strengthens communities; and

11 WHEREAS, Founded by urban education pioneer Elizabeth
12 Harrison as Miss Harrison's Training School in 1886, the
13 institution now known as NLU began as a radical initiative to
14 train women as kindergarten teachers, eventually becoming a
15 cornerstone of the modern American kindergarten movement and
16 the birthplace of the National Parent Teacher Association
17 (PTA); and

18 WHEREAS, NLU has evolved into a comprehensive, private,
19 nonprofit university serving approximately 13,000 students
20 annually across campuses in downtown Chicago, Lisle, and
21 Wheeling, as well as Tampa, Florida, and through robust online
22 platforms; and

1 WHEREAS, NLU remains a leader in teacher preparation, with
2 its National College of Education (NCE) being recognized for
3 top-tier programs in Early Childhood Education, Curriculum &
4 Instruction, and Secondary Education; and

5 WHEREAS, NLU's commitment to college access is reflected
6 in its student body, with 60% of students identifying as
7 BIPOC, 59% being eligible for Pell Grants, and many being
8 first-generation college students pursuing degrees while
9 managing personal and professional goals; and

10 WHEREAS, NLU continues to drive innovation through a
11 number of unique initiatives, including Accelerate U, which
12 provides rapid pathways to employment, and the Work Integrated
13 Pathways program, which allows students to earn academic
14 credit while employed; and

15 WHEREAS, NLU has been recognized by Washington Monthly
16 magazine as the #30 best national university, ranking it #1
17 for "Best Bang for the Buck" in the Midwest; and

18 WHEREAS, NLU continues to redefine excellence by removing
19 obstacles to postsecondary success and preparing the diverse
20 workforce of tomorrow; therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
2 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
3 we congratulate National Louis University (NLU) on the
4 occasion of its 140th anniversary and its enduring legacy and
5 impact, and we commend the faculty, staff, students, and
6 100,000 living alumni of NLU for their contributions to the
7 prosperity and well-being of the State of Illinois; and be it
8 further

9 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
10 presented to NLU President Nivine Megahed, Ph.D., NLU Provost
11 and Senior Vice President Eddie Phillips, Ed.D., and the NLU
12 Board of Trustees as an expression of our esteem and respect.