



HR0916

LRB104 21968 LAW 37930 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives wish to recognize the historic papacy of His  
4 Holiness Pope Leo XIV, the first American elected Supreme  
5 Pontiff in the two millennia history of the Catholic Church;  
6 and

7 WHEREAS, Pope Leo XIV, formerly Cardinal Robert Francis  
8 Prevost, was born in Chicago, a city whose rich diversity,  
9 immigrant traditions, and enduring spirit helped shape a life  
10 devoted to faith, humility, scholarship, and service; and

11 WHEREAS, Pope Leo XIV graduated from Villanova University  
12 with a degree in mathematics before pursuing theological  
13 studies at the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago,  
14 reflecting a lifelong commitment to intellectual rigor and  
15 spiritual formation; and

16 WHEREAS, At the age of 27, Pope Leo XIV traveled to Rome,  
17 Italy to study Canon Law at the Pontifical University of Saint  
18 Thomas Aquinas, and he was ordained to the priesthood in 1982;  
19 and

20 WHEREAS, Pope Leo XIV devoted decades of his ministry to  
21 missionary and pastoral work in Peru, where he served

1 communities with compassion, humility, and a steadfast  
2 commitment to human dignity and social justice; and

3 WHEREAS, Pope Leo XIV later served as Bishop of Chiclayo,  
4 Prefect of the Dicastery for Bishops, and Cardinal of the  
5 Catholic Church before his election to the papacy, earning the  
6 respect of clergy and the faithful throughout the world; and

7 WHEREAS, Pope Leo XIV's election represents not only a  
8 historic moment for Catholics in the United States but also a  
9 reminder that moral leadership rooted in humility, compassion,  
10 and peace can emerge from every corner of the world; and

11 WHEREAS, In his first public remarks in office, Pope Leo  
12 XIV greeted the world with the words, "Peace be with you",  
13 offering a message of reconciliation, hope, and shared  
14 humanity at a time of division and uncertainty across the  
15 globe; therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
17 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
18 we recognize His Holiness Pope Leo XIV for his extraordinary  
19 spiritual leadership, his lifelong commitment to service, and  
20 the inspiration his historic papacy brings to the people of  
21 Illinois, the United States, and the world; and be it further

1       RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
2       presented to Pope Leo XIV as an expression of our admiration,  
3       respect, and goodwill.