



HR0934

LRB104 22128 MST 38318 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, People of Caribbean heritage are in every state
3 across the country; and

4 WHEREAS, During the 17th, 18th, and 19th centuries, a
5 significant number of enslaved people from the Caribbean
6 region were brought to the United States; and

7 WHEREAS, Much like the United States, the countries of the
8 Caribbean faced obstacles of slavery and colonialism and
9 struggled for independence; and

10 WHEREAS, Similar to the United States, the people of the
11 Caribbean region have diverse racial, cultural, and religious
12 backgrounds; and

13 WHEREAS, Caribbean Americans have become leaders in every
14 sector of the country while maintaining the varied traditions
15 of their countries of origin, including representation from
16 Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, Cuba, Barbados, the United
17 States Virgin Islands, Haiti, Belize, the Bahamas, and several
18 others; and

19 WHEREAS, The State of Illinois has benefited from the
20 incredible contributions of Caribbean Americans, including in

1 education, Dr. Manoucheka Celeste (Haiti), associate
2 professor, gender studies, UIC; in medicine, Dr. Michael
3 Richardson (Jamaica), chief of staff, Hines VA Hospital; in
4 business, Kareem Edwards (Trinidad), Chicago's first African
5 American Chick-Fil-A owner-operator; in culture, Anyine
6 "Angie" Galvan Rodriguez (Puerto Rico/Dominican Republic),
7 community curator and founder of AfroLatina Natural Blog; in
8 cuisine, Chef Jeffrey Crittenden (Bahamas), chef instructor,
9 Kendall College; and many other areas; 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 June 2026 as Caribbean American Heritage Month in
13 the State Illinois.