



SR0224

LRB104 13113 MST 25200 r

1 SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate wish to
3 congratulate the Joliet Area Historical Museum on being named
4 Museum of the Year by the Illinois Association of Museums
5 (IAM) on April 3, 2025, one of the highest honors that the IAM
6 can bestow upon an institution; and

7 WHEREAS, The Joliet Area Historical Museum, founded in
8 2002, is a private 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization that
9 celebrates the diverse industrial heritage and culture of the
10 Joliet region and is funded primarily through the support of
11 earned revenue, membership, sponsored programs, and government
12 grants; and

13 WHEREAS, The Joliet Area Historical Museum expanded beyond
14 its flagship museum in Joliet's City Center with the
15 organization's operations of the Old Joliet Prison Historic
16 Site in 2018; two new museums opened in 2024, which included
17 the Martin & Emma Planinsek Grocery and Meat Market Museum,
18 which preserves the Slovenian immigrant experience in Joliet,
19 and the Joliet Railroad Museum, which was awarded the New
20 Museum Award; and

21 WHEREAS, The Joliet Area Historical Museum also received
22 an Award of Superior Achievement in Innovation for acquiring

1 the iconic Route 66 Landmark Gemini Giant Muffler Man
2 sculpture in the neighboring community of Wilmington, rescuing
3 it from certain relocation or destruction; and

4 WHEREAS, The Joliet Area Historical Museum is an
5 institution with a vision beyond one exhibit gallery, or even
6 one building, and has become integral in the culture and the
7 landscape of Joliet; therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL
9 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we congratulate the
10 Joliet Area Historical Museum and their team of dedicated
11 staff, valued members, loyal volunteers, and engaged board of
12 directors on being named Museum of the Year by the Illinois
13 Association of Museums; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
15 presented to the Joliet Area Historical Museum as a symbol of
16 our respect and esteem.