



SR0716

LRB104 21359 MST 36266 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate wish to congratulate the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) on the occasion of the 175th anniversary of the founding of the first chapter of the YMCA that was based in the United States; and

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WHEREAS, The first chapter of the YMCA based in the U. S. was founded in Boston, Massachusetts in 1851, but the movement soon spread to Illinois, starting in Chicago, Aurora, Springfield, Decatur, Evanston, and beyond; and

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WHEREAS, The YMCA of the USA is headquartered in Chicago, and the Illinois State Alliance of YMCAs now represents more than 800 YMCA program locations, impacting more than 150 communities and engaging nearly one million Illinoisans in strengthening the foundations of community through youth development, healthy living, and social responsibility; and

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WHEREAS, Illinois YMCAs support youth and families through safe and enriching out-of-school programs and are a strategic leading nonprofit provider of early childcare and partnerships, adaptive programs, education, before and after school programs, and summer camp programs; and

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1           WHEREAS, Illinois YMCAs prioritize healthy behaviors by  
2 welcoming the community into wellness centers, promoting  
3 drowning prevention, and supporting those battling chronic  
4 diseases by offering evidence-based programming; and

5           WHEREAS, Illinois YMCAs strive to meet the unique needs of  
6 their communities through a variety of programs, such as  
7 vaccination education and clinics, blood drives, mental health  
8 services, food distribution, tax preparation, clothing drives,  
9 emergency immigrant housing and services, support of adults  
10 with developmental disabilities, and more; and

11           WHEREAS, Thousands of staff and volunteers create  
12 connected communities and advance the YMCA's mission to build  
13 healthy spirits, minds, and bodies for all; therefore, be it

14           RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL  
15 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we congratulate the  
16 Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) on the occasion of  
17 the 175th anniversary of the founding of the first chapter of  
18 the YMCA that was based in the United States and commend the  
19 YMCA's role in responding to community needs, connecting  
20 people, fostering support, and building relationships and a  
21 sense of belonging; and be it further

22           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be

1 presented to the YMCA as a symbol of our respect and esteem.