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1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

adolescent with a good education; and

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- 2 WHEREAS, Excellence in education is vital to the success of 3 our nation, our State, and our communities; and
- WHEREAS, In the great State of Illinois, we seek the betterment of our citizens and look to provide each child and
- WHEREAS, Education develops the intellect and prepares students for the responsibilities and opportunities of the future through lessons in literacy, math, and science; and
- 10 WHEREAS, The Rebbe, the global spiritual leader Rabbi
 11 Menachem Schneerson who dedicated his life to the betterment of
 12 mankind, provided a shining example of what education ought to
 13 be for all people; and
- 14 WHEREAS, The Rebbe was a tireless advocate for youth,
 15 emphasizing the importance of education and good character and
 16 instilling hope for a brighter future in countless people
 17 around the world; and
- 18 WHEREAS, The Rebbe taught that education, in general,
 19 should not be limited to the acquisition of knowledge and
 20 preparation for a career, nor should its sole focus be on

- WHEREAS, The educational system must also focus on building character by emphasizing the cultivation of universal moral and ethical values that have been the bedrock of society from the dawn of civilization, including the values known as the Seven Noahide Laws, which have often been cited as a guarantee of fundamental human rights; and
- 8 WHEREAS, The Rebbe taught that people must think in terms
 9 of creating better lives for all members of society and that
 10 focusing on the development of character, as well as strong
 11 moral and ethical values, would further that goal; and
 - WHEREAS, In recognition of the Rebbe's outstanding and lasting contributions to global education and his focus on morality and acts of charity, the Rebbe has been awarded the Congressional Gold Medal, and the United States Congress has established his birthday as a national day to raise awareness of the importance of strengthening the educational system for our children; and
 - WHEREAS, Every year since 1978, on the Rebbe's birthday, the President of the United States, regardless of political affiliation, has paid recognition to the Rebbe's vision by proclaiming the day "Education and Sharing Day, USA"; and

- 1 WHEREAS, We strengthen the character of our youth by
- 2 encouraging them to serve a cause greater than themselves and
- 3 by fostering values, such as courage and compassion; and
- WHEREAS, By instilling a spirit of service in our children,
- 5 we create a more optimistic future for our children and the
- 6 State; therefore, be it
- 7 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
- 8 HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
- 9 we declare April 16, 2019 as Illinois Education and Sharing Day
- in the State of Illinois.