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LRB101 16458 MST 66147 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The Tamil community of Illinois has made  
3 significant contributions to our State's diverse culture and  
4 population, including preserving and promoting peace,  
5 togetherness, and the rich heritage of the Tamil language; and

6           WHEREAS, Members of the Illinois Tamil community have  
7 achieved immense success and developed instrumental  
8 partnerships with their fellow residents, while simultaneously  
9 honoring their heritage and sharing the Tamil language in the  
10 course of their daily lives; and

11           WHEREAS, The Tamil language is central to Tamil identity  
12 and is recognized as one of the world's longest surviving  
13 written and spoken languages, dating back more than 2,500  
14 years; the Tamil language is widely spoken in southern India,  
15 Singapore, and Sri Lanka, as well as many other communities  
16 around the world; and

17           WHEREAS, The Tamil language is the 20th most common  
18 language, spoken by approximately 76 million people globally,  
19 including many Illinois residents; and

20           WHEREAS, Chicago Tamil Sangam, the oldest Tamil  
21 organization in North America, celebrated its golden jubilee

1 from July 4-7, 2019 in conjunction with the 10th World Tamil  
2 Conference in Schaumburg; and

3 WHEREAS, During the month of January, members of the Tamil  
4 community celebrate Pongal, a harvest festival spanning four  
5 days; Tamil Language and Culture Week provides an opportunity  
6 to share the culture of the Tamil community with Illinois  
7 citizens and to recognize centuries of Tamil traditions;  
8 therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
10 HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
11 we declare the week of January 13-17, 2020 as Tamil Language  
12 and Culture Week in Illinois.