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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, It is important to acknowledge 2019 as the 'Year of Chicago Theatre', as designated in 2018 by former Mayor Rahm Emanuel and many other civic, arts, and theatre leaders; and

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WHEREAS, The city-wide, year-long focus on theatre is the first of its kind in the U.S. and has included theatre performances of improv, dance, opera, puppetry, and more and special events for the public at hundreds of cultural venues, theaters, parks, and neighborhood locations throughout the city; and

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WHEREAS, The Year of Chicago Theatre follows the success of initiatives from 2017 and 2018 celebrating Chicago's public art and its creative youth; its mission is to make 2019 a year in which the City of Chicago emphasizes the prominence of its expansive and innovative theatre industry; and

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WHEREAS, The City of Chicago and its partners vowed to launch a marketing campaign that leverages a new brand for Chicago theatre, to provide additional financial grants to theatre projects, to encourage dialogue around inclusion and equity, and to call on civic, philanthropic, arts, and business leaders to support the theatre community; and

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1           WHEREAS, The Year of Chicago Theatre is designed to  
2 encourage dialogue within Chicago's theatre and philanthropic  
3 communities regarding inclusion and equity issues, seeking to  
4 expand the geographic scope of Chicago theatre, especially on  
5 the city's south and west sides; and

6           WHEREAS, Thus far, the Year of Chicago Theatre has been a  
7 success, boosting awareness and visibility of Chicago's  
8 vibrant theatre community, marketing Chicago as a theatre  
9 destination, and sustainably growing audiences for Chicago  
10 theatres; therefore, be it

11           RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL  
12 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we declare 2019 as "The  
13 Year of Chicago Theatre" in the State of Illinois, and we  
14 celebrate all of the talented actors, actresses, producers, and  
15 directors throughout Chicago who work tirelessly to entertain  
16 audiences from our State and from around the world; and be it  
17 further

18           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
19 presented to the Chicago Theatre as a symbol of our respect and  
20 esteem.