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LRB102 24726 LAW 33966 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Black History Month, designated each February, is
3 an important time to celebrate the remarkable contributions of
4 Black American women while addressing the obstacles that Black
5 women still face, both across the United States and in
6 Illinois; and

7 WHEREAS, Observing Black History Month is a historic
8 tradition that began in 1926 to honor and celebrate the
9 aspirations and accomplishments of Black individuals; and

10 WHEREAS, Even with years of the positive advancements that
11 are documented during Black History Month, some Black
12 communities still suffer from unacceptable conditions, such as
13 higher rates of unemployment, poverty, mortgage foreclosures,
14 lack of access to public health services, and crime; and

15 WHEREAS, Black women have experienced the compounding
16 impacts of racism and sexism but have nonetheless risen to
17 contribute to the improvement of their communities, including
18 in the fields of education, health care, government, and many
19 others; and

20 WHEREAS, Black women face inequities in healthcare,
21 including facing worse outcomes during pregnancy and

1 postpartum care; they die from pregnancy-related conditions
2 three times more often than white women according to the
3 Illinois Department of Public Health; and

4 WHEREAS, Black women are less likely to receive thorough
5 screenings for breast cancer, such as 3D mammograms; the
6 University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign found that living
7 in a predominantly African American neighborhood increased
8 Black and white women's odds of dying from breast cancer; and

9 WHEREAS, According to the U.S. Department of Labor, Black
10 women earn 63 cents for every dollar earned by a white,
11 non-Hispanic man; therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
13 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
14 we recognize Black History Month as an important time to
15 celebrate the remarkable contributions of all Black women in
16 United States; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That we acknowledge the continuing struggles
18 within African American communities, especially those of Black
19 women, and encourage Governor Pritzker to address the ongoing
20 issues affecting those communities; and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be

1 delivered to Governor JB Pritzker.