



HR0788

LRB102 26762 LAW 37692 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, WILL-AM, then known as WRM, broadcast for the
3 first time on April 6, 1922 from the University of Illinois
4 Electrical Engineering Laboratory in Urbana; and

5 WHEREAS, From the beginning, the station used the
6 innovative power and reach of new technology to educate,
7 inspire, and connect Illinoisans; and

8 WHEREAS, Illinois Public Media, as a media organization,
9 has a long history of enriching the State through the arts and
10 classical music, even hosting its own chamber orchestra, the
11 WILL Sinfonietta, in 1937; and

12 WHEREAS, From its very first broadcast, WILL-AM has upheld
13 the mission of a land-grant university by providing essential
14 information to the agricultural community, which continues to
15 this day with daily programming and podcasts; and

16 WHEREAS, WILL-FM signed on with the first FM license
17 awarded to a university in 1941; and

18 WHEREAS, WILL hosted the Allerton Conference for the
19 National Association of Educational Broadcasters in 1948,
20 which later began delivering programs to noncommercial radio

1 stations across the country, becoming the forerunner of NPR
2 and PBS; and

3 WHEREAS, Mister Rogers Neighborhood debuted on WILL-TV in
4 1968; the show, along with Sesame Street and local children's
5 shows such as Stories 'n' Stuff, helped build the important
6 educational impact that Illinois Public Media continues to
7 provide to children today; and

8 WHEREAS, Illinois Public Media continues a rich tradition
9 of state-focused, locally-hosted news programs with The 21st
10 radio talk show, which brings listeners the news, culture, and
11 stories that matter to a statewide audience; and

12 WHEREAS, Illinois Public Media produces award-winning
13 local programming on WILL-TV, WILL-AM, and WILL-FM, focused on
14 news, arts, and the unique history and culture of our State;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, Today, Illinois Public Media has donors in every
17 region of the State as well as a global audience; and

18 WHEREAS, Illinois Public Media has been an integral part
19 of the community for 100 years, providing free services to
20 all, and, to this day, remains focused on using the power of
21 public media to educate, inform, and inspire the people of

1 Illinois; and

2 WHEREAS, Illinois Public Media will celebrate the 100th
3 anniversary of WILL-AM on April 6, 2022; therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
5 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
6 we declare April 6, 2022 as Illinois Public Media Day in the
7 State of Illinois in celebration of WILL's 100-year history
8 and its profound impact on the community; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
10 presented to Illinois Public Media with our sincere
11 appreciation for their efforts.