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HOUSE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The ability to read is fundamental to an individual's success and their ability to take part in our democracy as a responsible citizen; and

WHEREAS, According to 2022 data from the National Assessment of Education Progress (NAEP), one third of Illinois children are reading below their basic grade level; and

WHEREAS, A study by the Annie E. Casey Foundation found that third graders that do not read proficiently are four times more likely to drop out of high school, and low-income students that do not read proficiently are six times more likely to drop out of high school; and

WHEREAS, Students that cannot read proficiently experience difficulty in every school subject and find it hard to succeed academically; and

WHEREAS, Students who cannot read proficiently are not well prepared for life after school; and

WHEREAS, In the proposed FY24 budget, \$1.5 million has been dedicated so that every child from birth to five years old should soon be receiving one free book a month through Dolly

1 Parton's Imagination Library; and

2 WHEREAS, Parents are indispensable in the education of
3 their children, and the habits that parents model and the
4 passions they instill are vital to a child's development;
5 therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
7 HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
8 we declare the week of May 7 through May 13, 2023 as Read with
9 Your Child Week in the State of Illinois; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That we encourage all Illinois schools to
11 promote Read with Your Child Week with appropriate activities;
12 and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
14 presented to Dr. Tony Sanders, the State Superintendent of
15 Education.