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LRB103 43346 MST 76662 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Celiac disease is one of the world's most
3 prevalent genetic autoimmune diseases, affecting an estimated
4 three million Americans, 70-80% of whom are undiagnosed; and

5 WHEREAS, Celiac disease causes the body to attack its own
6 small intestine, which can lead to many other devastating
7 health conditions, including cancer; and

8 WHEREAS, Celiac disease results in extraordinary economic
9 and productivity costs to both the public and private sectors
10 from employee and student absenteeism, as well as repeated,
11 inconclusive visits to healthcare providers; and

12 WHEREAS, On average, it takes four years to be correctly
13 diagnosed with celiac disease; and

14 WHEREAS, There is no medication or cure for celiac
15 disease; the only treatment is a lifelong, strict gluten-free
16 diet; and

17 WHEREAS, Studies show that up to 50% of people on a
18 gluten-free diet continue to experience symptoms and have
19 intestinal damage, revealing the ineffectiveness of the
20 gluten-free diet as a treatment; therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
2 HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
3 we declare September 13, 2024 as Celiac Disease Awareness Day
4 in the State of Illinois to raise public awareness of this
5 serious condition; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That we encourage support for improving the
7 quality of life and health of individuals with celiac disease
8 by advancing biomedical research to develop diagnostic tools,
9 life-improving treatments, and a cure.