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1 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The State of Illinois aims to fulfill the promise
3 of America, since before its founding, to be a land of
4 possibility, prosperity, refuge, progress, and equality; and

5 WHEREAS, The diversity and richness of our society and our
6 community grows, evolves, and finds new ways to contribute to
7 our collective prosperity, innovation, and virtue; and

8 WHEREAS, Our diverse and protected communities have made
9 invaluable contributions to the prosperity and well-being of
10 Illinois, the United States, and the world; and

11 WHEREAS, Illinois is the home of the Great Emancipator and
12 especially remembers and honors Abraham Lincoln for his role
13 in righting the course of our nation, working to restore it to
14 its ongoing promise of life and the pursuit of dignity,
15 equality, and freedom for all; and

16 WHEREAS, Illinois' civil rights laws and protections lead
17 among all of our nation's states; and

18 WHEREAS, As protected by the Illinois Human Rights Act,
19 all citizens of and visitors to Illinois are entitled to the
20 right of freedom from discrimination because of a person's

1 race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, age,
2 order of protection status, marital status, physical or mental
3 disability, sexual orientation (including gender identity),
4 citizenship status and language restrictions in employment,
5 arrest record in employment and housing, immigration status
6 and source of income in housing, and more; and

7 WHEREAS, Prolonged harm and discrimination, including
8 denial and violation of rights, committed against these groups
9 and communities created a legacy of intolerance, inequality,
10 discrimination, and, at times, hate; and

11 WHEREAS, America has yet to fulfill the entirety of its
12 promise, committing injustices over the centuries since our
13 founding against Black Americans, Native Americans, and other
14 communities, which contributed to inequality and taught a
15 legacy of hate to generations; and

16 WHEREAS, Hate and extremism have risen sharply in Illinois
17 in the last five years, perpetuating the legacy of injustice
18 and inequality; and

19 WHEREAS, Social division, conflict, grievance, resentment,
20 and even targeted violence remain challenges and dangers for
21 our nation, our State, and our polity; and

1 WHEREAS, Marginalized and underserved communities across
2 the State continue to face discrimination, hardship, and
3 hostility; and

4 WHEREAS, Rights established and guaranteed by Sections 17,
5 18, and 19 of Article I of the Illinois Constitution supersede
6 any ordinance or law of any other unit of local government that
7 prohibits, restricts, narrows, or limits the equality of any
8 person; and

9 WHEREAS, The right to individual dignity free from
10 depravity and hostility toward those connected by their
11 identity or community shall not be tolerated at any level; and

12 WHEREAS, Economic prosperity and vitality,
13 self-determination, and safety and security for these
14 communities within Illinois ensure the fundamental human
15 rights of all; therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL
17 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE HOUSE OF
18 REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING HEREIN, that the protection of the
19 fundamental human rights and dignity of all protected
20 communities of Illinois is a policy priority of the State of
21 Illinois; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That we support assistance for the humanitarian
2 needs of and services for residents of Illinois, directed
3 toward those with the greatest need; and be it further

4 RESOLVED, That we support the effective representation of
5 protected communities, which is essential to restoring and
6 upholding the rights of these communities, in line with
7 Article 1 of the Constitution of Illinois, which states "All
8 persons shall have the right to be free from discrimination on
9 the basis of race, color, creed, national ancestry and sex...";
10 and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That we stand united with the people of Illinois
12 against hate and intolerance and behind our shared form of
13 life and values of universal humanity and dignity, the virtue
14 of pluralism, and the strongest possible civil rights for all.