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LRB103 35137 LAW 65101 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate wish to
3 congratulate Rockford Dance Company on the occasion of its
4 50th anniversary; and

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WHEREAS, Rockford Dance Company, a registered 501(c)(3)
6 nonprofit organization, pursues excellence in the art of dance
7 through performance, classes, and outreach, bringing high
8 quality dance education to the Rockford area since 1974; and

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WHEREAS, Rockford Dance Company was established by a group
of dedicated moms, led by Carolyn Bailey, who all had the
11 desire to provide young dancers with performance opportunities
12 beyond the classroom and recitals; they approached Professor
13 Jayne Poor of Dance at Rockford College with their idea, and
14 she accepted the challenge with her longtime friend, dancer,
15 and choreographer, Chuck Hoenes; and

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WHEREAS, Under the leadership of founding Co-Artistic
Directors Jayne Poor and Chuck Hoenes, the newly formed
Rockford Dance Company accepted 86 charter members in January
1973; the company was performing its first concert to a sold
out audience in Maddox Theater at Rockford University by
February 1974; and

1 WHEREAS, At the outset, Rockford Dance Company presented
2 an eclectic style, including ballet, modern dance, and jazz;
3 since then, the organization has grown into a diverse and
4 thriving company, offering classes in ballet, modern, jazz,
5 tap, dance theater, stretch, conditioning, hip hop, and
6 barre-vite; and

7 WHEREAS, Rockford Dance Company is currently led by
8 Executive Director Vanessa Hita and School Director
9 Christopher Damle; and

10 WHEREAS, Rockford Dance Company will celebrate the
11 culmination of its 50th anniversary with a gala at the Maddox
12 Theater of Rockford University on May 18, 2024; therefore, be
13 it

14 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL
15 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we congratulate
16 Rockford Dance Company on its 50th anniversary, and we wish
17 the organization continued success in the future; and be it
18 further

19 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
20 presented to Rockford Dance Company as an expression of our
21 esteem and respect.