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LRB103 40162 LAW 71917 r

1 SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Strong family relationships constitute the
3 foundation of our communities; and

4 WHEREAS, Alienation behaviors are frequently present in
5 high-conflict divorces, separations, and asymmetrical custody
6 arrangements, as well as in intact marriages, often causing
7 mental and emotional anguish to children; and

8 WHEREAS, Alienation is a term used to describe any number
9 of behaviors and attitudes on the part of one or both parents
10 designed to interfere, damage, or destroy the relationship
11 between a child and another family member; and

12 WHEREAS, Alienation takes advantage of the innocent and
13 impressionable, as well as the suggestibility and dependency
14 of a child, depriving children of their right to love and be
15 loved by their extended family; and

16 WHEREAS, Mental health professionals agree that the
17 negative effects of alienation can follow a child into
18 adulthood with tragic consequences; and

19 WHEREAS, The recently published fifth edition of the
20 Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5)

1 made several references to the dysfunctional family dynamic of
2 alienation as a form of psychological child abuse; and

3 WHEREAS, Grandparent Alienation Awareness Day is intended
4 to increase the knowledge and understanding of this problem to
5 help families, institutions, the legal and mental health
6 communities, and leaders to better identify and combat such
7 conduct to children; therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL
9 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we declare June 14,
10 2024 as Grandparent Alienation Awareness Day in the State of
11 Illinois; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That we encourage parents to support and foster
13 positive relationships between children and extended family
14 members when possible.