



1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, In 1905, Nemer Kaleel, of Lebanon, arrived at
3 Ellis Island, penniless, homeless, and without any knowledge of
4 the English language; and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Kaleel settled in Spring Valley and began to
6 peddle goods from house to house; in 1939, an Earlville banker
7 suggested he open a store in the community and Kaleel's
8 Clothing was born; and

9 WHEREAS, During the ensuing years, Mr. Kaleel built a
10 respectable business and a close family; his sons continued the
11 legacy and opened stores in the area; and

12 WHEREAS, In 1977, his grandson, who shared his ancestor's
13 vision, opened his own store in Oswego; in 1981, the spotlight
14 of national media landed on the American Male store and
15 applauded the family's belief in selling only American-made
16 products; the Kaleel family's deeply held beliefs connected
17 them to Americans everywhere; and

18 WHEREAS, The store, American Male & Company, continues to
19 prosper; it is Oswego's hidden treasure and a shopping haven
20 for both men and women; and

21 WHEREAS, The Kaleel family proudly celebrates the life of
22 an immigrant with a dream; they reflect on the life of a man
23 and his sons who have worked quietly, obscurely, and proudly to
24 provide their families with the opportunities of a great land;
25 the Kaleel family believes in the American dream, a dream born
26 100 years ago; therefore, be it

27 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
28 NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
29 we honor the Kaleel family's deep, determined resolve in the

1 American dream and wish them continued success and happiness;
2 and be it further

3 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
4 presented to the Kaleel family as an expression of our
5 admiration and esteem.