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HOUSE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, A "developmental disability" is defined as a disorder caused by mental retardation, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, autism, or any other condition which results in impairment similar to that of mental retardation; a developmental disability originates before the age of 18 and is expected to continue indefinitely; and

WHEREAS, Approximately 1.5 percent of the U.S. population is afflicted with a developmental disability or mental retardation; due to the early onset and debilitating nature of these disorders, many more children are affected than adults; and

WHEREAS, One of the main purposes of the Knights of Columbus, a fraternal order with 1.7 million members around the world, is to support various charitable causes that seek to make our families and communities stronger; it has donated \$1 billion and volunteered 400 million hours of service in the past decade; and

WHEREAS, The Illinois State Council of the Knights of Columbus will hold their 37th Annual Fund Drive for the Mental Retardation/Learning Disabilities Program from September 15-19, 2006, distributing the funds they raise to more than 300 organizations throughout Illinois; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we proclaim September 15-19, 2006 as "Helping Citizens with Developmental Disabilities Days" in Illinois, and encourage all citizens to contribute what they can to assist the people that are afflicted with these terrible disorders; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
2 presented to the Illinois State Council of the Knights of
3 Columbus as an expression of our esteem.