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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the House of Representatives of the  
3 State of Illinois are pleased to congratulate André Benjamin on  
4 being the 2006 recipient of the Emerging Artists Award from the  
5 Chicago International Film Festival Black Perspectives; and

6           WHEREAS, Mr. Benjamin was born on May 27, 1975, in Atlanta,  
7 Georgia; he met his future OutKast partner, Antwan "Big Boi"  
8 Patton, when they attended Tri-Cities High School in East  
9 Point, Georgia; and

10           WHEREAS, In 2003, OutKast released a double album,  
11 "Speakerboxxx/The Love Below"; it is one of only four hip-hop  
12 albums to be certified diamond in the U.S. for shipping over 10  
13 million units and won the 2004 Grammy award for Best Album and  
14 Best Rap Album; the same year, OutKast's single, "Hey Ya!", won  
15 the Grammy award for Best Urban/Alternative Performance;  
16 OutKast is the recipient of three other Grammy awards; and

17           WHEREAS, Mr. Benjamin has moved into the film world and has  
18 made appearances in "Families", "The Shield", "Be Cool",  
19 "Revolver" (2005), and had a co-starring role in "Four  
20 Brothers"; he was cast as Percival in the movie, "Idlewild", a  
21 musical set in the prohibition-era South, for which he was  
22 co-creator and co-writer of the soundtrack; he also has several  
23 other projects that he is currently working on; beginning in  
24 November of this year, he will voice a new series on Cartoon  
25 Network called "Class of 3000", where he plays a Nobel Prize  
26 winning musician and each episode will feature a new song; and

27           WHEREAS, Because of his many achievements, André Benjamin  
28 will receive the Emerging Artists Award from the Chicago  
29 International Film Festival Black Perspectives on Friday,  
30 October 13, 2006; therefore, be it

1           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
2           NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
3           we congratulate André Benjamin on being the recipient of the  
4           Emerging Artists Award from the Chicago International Film  
5           Festival Black Perspectives; and be it further

6           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
7           presented to Mr. Benjamin as an expression of our esteem.