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1 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, For more than 200 years downtown districts have
3 served as the heart and soul of our communities; they are the
4 site of parades, passionate speeches, and public gathering
5 places; and

6 WHEREAS, The words "main street" conjure up images of a
7 friendly place to greet your neighbors and friends, shop for
8 unique gifts or supplies, and enjoy an evening of good food and
9 entertainment; and

10 WHEREAS, Downtown businesses have provided stable incomes
11 to millions of Illinois residents, paid billions of tax dollars
12 for city and State services, and provided countless
13 sponsorships for activities that contribute to a community's
14 quality of life; and

15 WHEREAS, The Illinois Main Street program is a nationally
16 recognized model for preserving the historic integrity and
17 economic vitality of downtowns and neighborhood business
18 districts; and

19 WHEREAS, The Office of the Lieutenant Governor for the
20 State of Illinois successfully implemented the Main Street
21 program beginning in 1993 using the proven National Main Street
22 Center's comprehensive model for downtown revitalization - the
23 Four Point Approach®: Organization, Promotion, Design, and
24 Economic Restructuring; and

25 WHEREAS, Fifty-six Illinois communities are actively
26 participating in the Illinois Main Street program, and
27 consequently, more than \$418 million has been invested in their
28 downtown districts, nearly 5,000 new jobs have been created and
29 more than 1,300 businesses have sprung up or expanded in the
30 State; and

1 WHEREAS, The programs associated with Illinois Main Street
2 will certainly continue to restore, restructure, and
3 revitalize the soul of their community with successful results;
4 therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL
6 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
7 CONCURRING HEREIN, that we recognize the first Saturday in June
8 as Illinois Main Street Day in Illinois.