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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The Soka Gakkai (Value Creation Society) was  
3 founded on November 18, 1930, by Tsunesaburo Makiguchi and  
4 Josei Toda, two educators who were passionately dedicated to  
5 reform and whose works have inspired millions of people around  
6 the world; and

7           WHEREAS, The date of November 18th is being celebrated by  
8 more than 3,500 diverse members of Soka Gakkai  
9 International-USA, Chicago and more than 12 million members in  
10 190 countries and territories around the world as a day that  
11 marked the beginning of the movement to inspire people to live  
12 "brilliant, hope-filled lives"; and

13           WHEREAS, SGI President Dr. Daisaku Ikeda and his wife Mrs.  
14 Kaneko Ikeda have dedicated more than sixty years of their  
15 lives to the promotion of peace, culture, and education through  
16 their committed efforts as leaders of SGI; and

17           WHEREAS, Dr. Daisaku Ikeda, a world-renowned Buddhist  
18 scholar and peace activist, has made it his personal mission to  
19 engage in more than 1,500 dialogues for peace with such noted  
20 world leaders as Dr. Arnold Toynbee, Nobel Laureate and former  
21 President of South Africa Nelson Mandela, former U.S. Secretary  
22 of State Henry Kissinger, former Soviet Union President Mikhail

1 Gorbachev, civil rights leader Rosa Parks, and Dr. Elise  
2 Boulding; and

3 WHEREAS, Dr. Daisaku Ikeda and Mrs. Ikeda have received  
4 worldwide recognition for fulfilling the dreams of Mr.  
5 Makiguchi and Mr. Toda, with the establishment of the Soka  
6 Education system, which includes elementary to  
7 university-level institutions in Japan, and Soka University of  
8 America located in Aliso Viejo, California; the establishment  
9 of the Min-On Concert Association; and creation of the Tokyo  
10 Fuji Art Museum; and

11 WHEREAS, Dr. Daisaku Ikeda and Mrs. Ikeda serve as  
12 inspiring examples of how one person's committed efforts can  
13 transform the lives of millions of people around the world;  
14 therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
16 NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
17 recognize the celebration of November 18 as the founding day of  
18 the Soka Gakkai, and do hereby recognize and salute Dr. Daisaku  
19 and Kaneko Ikeda's continuous efforts to promote peace, culture  
20 and education, and the efforts of the members of SGI-USA,  
21 Chicago.