

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The Members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are pleased to recognize significant
4 milestone events in the history of religious organizations in
5 the State of Illinois; and

6 WHEREAS, The present K.A.M. Isaiah Israel Congregation
7 was formed in 1971 by the merger of the two oldest Reform
8 congregations in the Midwest; and

9 WHEREAS, The congregation was founded in 1847, making it
10 the oldest Jewish congregation in the Midwest; it was a
11 founding member of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations
12 in 1873 and has been located in the Hyde Park-Kenwood area of
13 Chicago since the 1920s; and

14 WHEREAS, K.A.M. Isaiah Israel Congregation is a special
15 Hyde Park-Kenwood institution, has a tradition of activism,
16 and is nationally known as a leader in Reform Judaism and
17 Hyde Park-Kenwood interfaith activities for social justice;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, After the 1971 merger, the building at 51st
20 Street and Drexel Avenue that had been the congregation's
21 synagogue became the headquarters of the Rainbow PUSH
22 coalition; and

23 WHEREAS, K.A.M. Isaiah Israel Congregation has been a
24 home to some of the leading lights in American Jewish and
25 civil life, including Rabbi Jacob Weinstein, who marched with
26 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; Arthur Goldberg, Supreme Court
27 Justice and United Nations Ambassador; Abner J. Mikva,
28 Congressman, Federal Judge and White House Counsel; Rabbi
29 Morton Berman, community builder and leader in moving the
30 Reform movement to Zionism; Arnold Jacob Wolf, rabbi,
31 scholar, civil rights leader and innovator of Reform Jewish

1 practice; and Hayim Goren Perelmuter, a foundational figure
2 in Catholic-Jewish dialogue; and

3 WHEREAS, Today's membership of K.A.M. Isaiah Israel
4 Congregation, located at 1100 East Hyde Park Boulevard,
5 includes many of Illinois' most respected leaders in fields
6 as diverse as business, law, philanthropy, science,
7 economics, journalism, literature, art, medicine and social
8 services; and

9 WHEREAS, The congregation's Spring fund-raiser, "Bubbles
10 Galore and Much Much More", is scheduled for June 2, 2001, at
11 8 p.m.; therefore be it

12 RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
13 NINETY-SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
14 we congratulate the members of K.A.M. Isaiah Israel
15 Congregation on the congregation's 30 years as presently
16 constituted and on its more than 150 years of history and
17 wish them well in their fund raising efforts; and be it
18 further

19 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this Resolution be
20 delivered to the congregation's president, Gary Laser, as an
21 expression of our esteem.