



SR0794

LRB100 13761 JWD 28482 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The tragic events that took place on August 12, 2017, in Charlottesville, Virginia prove that white nationalism and neo-Nazism remain very real threats to social and racial progress; and

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WHEREAS, Throughout the course of our nation's history, white nationalism has promoted intimidation and violent repression of individuals solely on the basis of their race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, and immigration status; and

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WHEREAS, Today, white nationalism has attempted to reinvent itself, self-identifying as the "Alt-Right", yet their present-day rhetoric and terrorism conjure painful memories of our nation's past; and

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WHEREAS, While free speech is a bedrock value for Americans, white nationalist and neo-Nazi groups promote agendas that are in irreconcilable conflict with our nation's foundational principles of liberty and justice for all; and

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WHEREAS, White nationalism and neo-Nazism are continuing to grow as menaces to societal order that seek to reignite social animosities, reverse improvements in race relations,

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1 divide the nation, and foment hatred, classism, and ethnic
2 eradication; and

3 WHEREAS, The white nationalist and neo-Nazi message of
4 racial and social intolerance has led to senseless acts of
5 violence that continue to terrorize members of ethnic and
6 religious minority communities; therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH GENERAL
8 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we strongly denounce
9 and oppose the totalitarian impulses, violent terrorism,
10 xenophobic biases, and bigoted ideologies that are promoted by
11 white nationalists and neo-Nazis; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That we urge law enforcement to recognize these
13 white nationalist and neo-Nazi groups as terrorist
14 organizations, and to pursue the criminal elements of these
15 domestic terrorist organizations in the same manner and with
16 the same fervor used to protect the United States from other
17 manifestations of terrorism; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
19 delivered to the President of the United States, all members of
20 the United States Senate, all members of the United States
21 House of Representatives, the Governor of the State of
22 Illinois, and all members of the Illinois General Assembly.