

## HOUSE RESOLUTION No. \_\_\_\_

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*Introduced by: O'Brien, Heaton, Lehman, Aylesworth, Baird, Bartels, Bascom, Clere, Commons, Criswell, Culp, Gore, Goss-Reaves, Haggard, Hall, Hamilton, Heine, Isa, Judy, Karickhoff, Lauer, Ledbetter, Lindauer, Lucas, Manning, May, Mayfield, McNamara, Miller D, Miller K, Morris, Novak, Olthoff, Pfaff, Pressel, Pryor, Rowray, Shonkwiler, Smaltz, Teshka, Thompson, VanNatter, Wesco, Yocum, Zimmerman*

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1           A HOUSE RESOLUTION to commemorate the 250th  
2           Anniversary, or semiquincentennial, of the founding of the  
3           United States of America.

4           *Whereas, July 4, 2026, marks the 250th anniversary, or*  
5           *semiquincentennial, of the adoption of the Declaration of*  
6           *Independence by the Second Continental Congress in*  
7           *Philadelphia in 1776, signifying the founding of the United*  
8           *States of America;*

9           *Whereas, The Declaration of Independence proclaimed*  
10          *timeless principles of profound significance to the national*  
11          *heritage of the United States, including that all are created*  
12          *equal and endowed with certain inalienable rights, including*  
13          *life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, and that governments*  
14          *derive their just powers from the consent of the governed;*



1       *Whereas, The founding of the United States established the*  
 2       *principle of federalism, emphasizing a decentralized system of*  
 3       *government wherein powers are divided between national and*  
 4       *state governments, fostering liberty, accountability, and*  
 5       *responsiveness to local communities;*

6       *Whereas, This decentralized governance model has allowed*  
 7       *for innovation, diverse policy approaches, and stronger*  
 8       *accountability to the citizens of each state, ensuring that*  
 9       *government remains close to and reflective of the people's will;*

10       *Whereas, The founding of the United States initiated a*  
 11       *journey toward forming a "more perfect Union", marked by*  
 12       *historic achievements, struggles, and progress in realizing the*  
 13       *nation's founding ideals for all its citizens;*

14       *Whereas, Indiana has played a significant role throughout*  
 15       *the history of the United States, contributing to the nation's*  
 16       *development, culture, economy, and defense through the efforts*  
 17       *and sacrifices of its citizens;*

18       *Whereas, The semiquincentennial offers a unique*  
 19       *opportunity for the people of Indiana to reflect on our shared*  
 20       *history, honor the diverse contributions of all Americans,*  
 21       *celebrate our heritage of liberty, and look forward to the future*  
 22       *we strive to create for subsequent generations; and*

23       *Whereas, Commemorative activities across Indiana will*  
 24       *provide educational opportunities, foster civic engagement,*  
 25       *encourage community participation, and strengthen*  
 26       *appreciation for the history, federalist principles, and*  
 27       *foundational ideals upon which both the nation and our state*  
 28       *were built: Therefore,*

29       *Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the*  
 30       *General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

31       SECTION 1. That the Indiana House of Representatives  
 32       recognizes and commemorates the upcoming 250th anniversary  
 33       of the founding of the United States of America on July 4,  
 34       2026.



1           SECTION 2. That the Indiana House of Representatives  
2 encourages all citizens, communities, educational institutions,  
3 civic organizations, and businesses within the State of Indiana  
4 to participate in commemorative events and activities that  
5 reflect on our history, celebrate our achievements, and reaffirm  
6 our commitment to the ideals of liberty, equality,  
7 self-government, and federalism.

8           SECTION 3. That Indiana House of Representatives  
9 strongly encourages educational institutions across Indiana to  
10 enhance civics education, ensuring that future generations  
11 understand the critical importance of active civic participation,  
12 the principles of federalism, and the decentralized governance  
13 that protects liberty and promotes responsive government.

14          SECTION 4. That the Principal Clerk of the House of  
15 Representatives shall transmit copies of this resolution to State  
16 Representative Timothy O'Brien for distribution.

