

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 149

BY HEATON and WHITAKER

A Resolution encouraging the adoption of the Iowa tartan  
and the Iowa dress tartan as official state tartans.

WHEREAS, Tartan Day has been recognized and  
celebrated on April 6 since 1999 to commemorate the  
signing of the Declaration of Arbroath that inspired  
the United States Declaration of Independence and to  
recognize the contributions of the people of Scottish  
and Scots-Irish heritage to the United States and  
Iowa; and

WHEREAS, twenty states, the United States, all of  
the Canadian provinces, some of the American military  
forces, and several cities in the United States have  
adopted their own tartan which can be worn by anyone  
of any nationality, known as district tartans; and

WHEREAS, Iowa has a rich history of Scottish  
influence in the founding of towns, cities, and  
counties; and that history is reflected in place names  
and celebrations throughout Iowa; and

WHEREAS, Iowans of Scottish and Scots-Irish descent  
have shown leadership in the fields of science,  
industry, literature, politics, exploration, and  
conservation; and

WHEREAS, the Scottish community had input into the  
creation of the Iowa tartan and Iowa dress tartan; and

WHEREAS, the colors chosen for the Iowa tartans  
were chosen to symbolize Iowa: blue for the sky, our  
rivers and lakes; green for the fields our farmers  
plant; black for the rich soil with which we are

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1 blessed; white for snow; red for barns and the state  
2 flower, the wild rose; brown for the earth; and yellow  
3 for corn and the state bird, the goldfinch; and

4 WHEREAS, the Iowa Scottish Heritage Society  
5 initiated the creation of the state tartans as gifts  
6 for all of the people of Iowa to symbolize the nature,  
7 qualities, and beauty of Iowa and as a symbol of unity  
8 and all that weaves us together as Iowans; NOW  
9 THEREFORE,

10 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
11 That the House of Representatives supports adoption of  
12 designs submitted by the Iowa Scottish Heritage  
13 Society as the official Iowa tartans; and

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this  
15 resolution be sent to the Governor requesting  
16 executive approval of such tartans as the official  
17 Iowa tartan and Iowa dress tartan.

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