

1 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 30
2 BY DODERER and MILLAGE
3 (COMPANION TO LSB 2299SS BY HAMMOND)
4 A Concurrent Resolution recognizing the Seventy-fifth
5 Anniversary of the American Civil Liberties Union
6 and the Sixtieth Anniversary of the Iowa Civil
7 Liberties Union.
8 WHEREAS, the National Civil Liberties Bureau,
9 established in 1917 by Roger N. Baldwin and Crystal
10 Eastman to fight against government suppression of
11 dissenters' rights during World War I, became the
12 American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) in 1920; and
13 WHEREAS, the founding members, Arthur Garfield
14 Hays, Sophonisba Breckenridge, Norman Thomas, Albert
15 DeSilver, James Weldon Johnson, Jane Addams, Helen
16 Keller, and Felix Frankfurter, established the new
17 organization in a climate of lingering wartime
18 hysteria to defend free speech; to fight
19 discrimination against the foreign-born; to fight the
20 deportation of immigrants for their political beliefs;
21 to defend the right of trade unions to organize and
22 hold meetings; and to secure the release of hundreds
23 of activists imprisoned during the war; and
24 WHEREAS, today, the ACLU honors that legacy by
25 defending the First Amendment rights of even the most
26 unpopular minorities, the right to equal treatment
27 regardless of a person's classification, the right to
28 due process of law, the right to privacy, and other
29 enumerated rights guaranteed in the Bill of Rights;
30 and

1 WHEREAS, the Iowa Civil Liberties Union (ICLU), one
2 of the oldest affiliates of the ACLU, comprised of
3 over 2,000 members from across Iowa, is an
4 organization founded in 1935 by Professor Edward S.
5 Allen, College of Mathematics, Ames; J.C. Lewis,
6 President of the Iowa State Federation of Labor, Des
7 Moines; Reverend Stoddard Lane, pastor of Plymouth
8 Congregational Church, Des Moines; John D. Denison,
9 attorney and referee in bankruptcy, Des Moines; Mrs.
10 Laetitia Conrad, Professor of Sociology at Grinnell
11 College, Grinnell; Joseph I. Brody, attorney, Des
12 Moines; and Reverend Aron S. Gilmartin, Des Moines;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, the ICLU is dedicated to protecting and
15 preserving the basic freedoms for all Iowans as
16 guaranteed by the United States Constitution and the
17 Bill of Rights; and

18 WHEREAS, the ICLU takes this mandate seriously and
19 has, for 60 years, opposed, through litigation,
20 legislation, and public education, encroachments on
21 the civil liberties of Iowans, regardless of how
22 unpopular their cause or their political affiliation;
23 NOW THEREFORE,

24 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THE
25 SENATE CONCURRING, That the Iowa General Assembly
26 recognizes and congratulates the American Civil
27 Liberties Union for 75 continuous years, and the Iowa
28 Civil Liberties Union for 60 continuous years of
29 commitment to protecting the basic civil liberties of
30 all Americans, specifically those of Iowans, and

1 guaranteeing legal representation to groups that have
2 been denied those rights.

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