



HJ0011

LRB100 06993 MST 17046 r

1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The early years are a critical period in a child's  
3 learning and development, and set the foundation for  
4 higher-level thinking skills later in life; and

5 WHEREAS, Missing too many days of school can make it  
6 difficult for youth to stay on track in classes and maintain  
7 momentum for graduation from high school; and

8 WHEREAS, Chronic absenteeism is a powerful predictor of the  
9 students who may eventually drop out of school; and

10 WHEREAS, Chronic absenteeism can lead to poor educational  
11 and life outcomes for children; and

12 WHEREAS, Students with documented disabilities are more  
13 likely to be absent from school than their same-aged peers; and

14 WHEREAS, Children and youth who are homeless benefit from  
15 being in school and yet are more likely to be chronically  
16 absent; and

17 WHEREAS, The hard work of educators is undermined by  
18 chronic absenteeism among students; and

1           WHEREAS, Positive re-engagement strategies can decrease  
2 chronic absenteeism and youth involvement in the juvenile  
3 justice system; and

4           WHEREAS, Children with involved families have better  
5 school attendance, lower suspension rates, and overall higher  
6 graduation rates; and

7           WHEREAS, Students who are in school every day are much more  
8 likely to engage in positive behaviors; and

9           WHEREAS, Community involvement decreases chronic  
10 absenteeism and potentially increases the local quality of  
11 life; and

12           WHEREAS, School attendance promotes college and career  
13 readiness, thereby increasing the number of students in  
14 Illinois with high quality degrees and credentials; therefore,  
15 be it

16           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
17 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE SENATE  
18 CONCURRING HEREIN, that we encourage the Illinois State Board  
19 of Education and each school district in this State to consider  
20 the benefits of the attendance awareness campaign "Every  
21 Student Counts, Every Day Matters" encouraged by the Illinois

1 Attendance Commission; and be it further

2       RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be  
3 delivered to the Illinois State Board of Education and the  
4 Regional Offices of Education.