



HR0314

LRB100 12342 MST 25055 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, Article X, Section 1 of the Illinois Constitution  
3 provides that "A fundamental goal of the People of the State is  
4 the educational development of all persons to the limits of  
5 their capacities."; the Section also provides that "The State  
6 shall provide for an efficient system of high quality public  
7 educational institutions and services." and that "The State has  
8 the primary responsibility for financing the system of public  
9 education."; and

10           WHEREAS, The economic competitiveness of the United States  
11 and Illinois in the global economy requires a well-educated  
12 workforce; and

13           WHEREAS, In 2017, education is more important than ever  
14 because it is an essential step to entering and remaining in  
15 the middle class; and

16           WHEREAS, High school dropouts are more than twice as likely  
17 to be unemployed and three times as likely to receive welfare  
18 assistance; nationally, this costs billions of dollars to  
19 government-funded assistance programs annually; and

20           WHEREAS, The United States Census Bureau estimates that a  
21 person with a high school diploma will earn \$9,634 more per

1 year than someone without a high school diploma; and

2 WHEREAS, In 2014, people without a high school diploma had  
3 a 9% unemployment rate, compared to a 6% rate for those with a  
4 high school diploma; and

5 WHEREAS, A well-educated citizenry improves the business  
6 climate by providing highly skilled workers that employers  
7 need; and

8 WHEREAS, According to a Georgetown University study, the  
9 United States economy will face a shortage of five million  
10 workers with the necessary education and training by 2020; and

11 WHEREAS, The majority of jobs that will be created will  
12 require some sort of education and training after high school;  
13 and

14 WHEREAS, Males with a college education live an average of  
15 8 years longer than those without a high school diploma, while  
16 females with a college education lived an average of 6 years  
17 longer; males with a college education are also 55% more likely  
18 to vote than those without a high school diploma, and females  
19 with a college education are 40% more likely to vote than those  
20 without a high school diploma; a one-year increase in median  
21 education level is associated with a more than 13% increase in

1 political primary turnouts; and

2 WHEREAS, Between 1987 and 2007, the United States has  
3 increased spending on incarceration by 127%, compared with a  
4 21% increase in funding for education during the same time  
5 period; and

6 WHEREAS, Forty-one percent of all prisoners have not  
7 completed high school, compared to 18% of the general adult  
8 population; and

9 WHEREAS, The annual cost of incarcerating an individual is  
10 roughly \$32,000, while the annual cost of educating a student  
11 is about \$11,000; a 5% increase in male graduation rates  
12 nationally would save an estimated \$5 billion annually in  
13 crime-related expenses; and

14 WHEREAS, Investment in education is shown to prevent  
15 violence by providing opportunities and knowledge that create a  
16 higher quality life; and

17 WHEREAS, The average annual public health cost is an  
18 estimated \$2,700 per high school dropout, \$1,000 per high  
19 school graduate, and \$170 per college graduate; it is estimated  
20 that if every high school dropout graduated, the national  
21 savings in public health costs would exceed \$40 billion

1 annually; and

2 WHEREAS, The foundation level is the statutorily set  
3 minimum per-pupil funding necessary to adequately educate  
4 public K-12 students in Illinois through a combination of State  
5 and local resources; the foundation level has remained at  
6 \$6,119 since the 2009-2010 school year, despite rising costs of  
7 education; and

8 WHEREAS, The Education Funding Advisory Board recommended  
9 that the foundation level be changed to \$9,204 for Fiscal Year  
10 2016 to adequately fund the educational needs of students; and

11 WHEREAS, Illinois currently ranks last in state share of  
12 P-12 education funding; and

13 WHEREAS, Improved education and more stable employment  
14 greatly increases tax revenue, returning at least seven dollars  
15 for every dollar invested in pre-kindergarten education; and

16 WHEREAS, A high quality education system should be the  
17 identity and legacy that we establish for Illinois and the  
18 United States; in addition, education should be the number one  
19 budget priority for the State of Illinois; therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE

1 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
2 acknowledge the importance of having a high quality education  
3 system and all of the societal benefits that go along with it;  
4 and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That we encourage the General Assembly to make  
6 education a priority in the Fiscal Year 2018 budget and to  
7 fully fund elementary and secondary education; and be it  
8 further

9 RESOLVED, That we encourage the business community to  
10 advocate for a high quality education system in Illinois, which  
11 will benefit the business climate as well as the citizens of  
12 Illinois; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That we encourage the General Assembly to  
14 continue to strive to create an adequately funded and high  
15 quality education system for the benefit of all citizens.