



HR1116

LRB100 21850 MST 40497 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The Illinois Association of Regional
3 Superintendents of Schools' (IARSS) educator shortage survey
4 identified a widespread concern for both teacher shortages and
5 substitute teacher shortages; and

6 WHEREAS, The report considers five key questions from the
7 survey concerning a teacher shortage which include: difficulty
8 with staffing, cancelled classes, frequency of candidate
9 application, quality of applicants, and content shortage
10 areas; and

11 WHEREAS, Teacher shortage concerns were more prominent in
12 the rural districts of central Illinois, but substitute teacher
13 shortage concerns were most evident for Southern Illinois
14 districts; and

15 WHEREAS, edTPA takes away from the classroom experience,
16 the most valid part of the student teaching process, and
17 student teachers are already observed by no less than three
18 educational professionals during classroom time; and

19 WHEREAS, Preparation for edTPA can take time away from the
20 normal curriculum of a teacher, and can detract from the
21 overall student-teaching experience, shifting focus from

1 learning to teaching to pass a test; and

2 WHEREAS, The edTPA may favor student teachers in some
3 teaching placements; some sources indicate that inner-city
4 schools with low-income students or highly diverse student
5 populations may present challenges that make passing the edTPA
6 more difficult; also, the faculty responsible for overseeing
7 and supporting student teachers may also affect test scores;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, On top of the cost of tuition, the basic skills
10 exam, and other certification requirements, this is a costly,
11 unproven, and restrictive exam administered by Pearson
12 Education, Inc.; the fee for taking the edTPA is \$300; and

13 WHEREAS, There is no research or evidence to support that
14 edTPA is a reliable method for evaluating or choosing teacher
15 candidates; and

16 WHEREAS, The exam is not scored by qualified teacher
17 evaluators familiar with the teacher candidate; instead,
18 Pearson Education, Inc. hires temporary workers at its own
19 discretion to indirectly decide who receives teaching
20 licenses; and

21 WHEREAS, Student teachers receive no compensation for

1 hours they spend in the classroom and must also self-fund their
2 participation in a teacher-certification program, which can
3 present a significant burden; Pearson Education, Inc. is
4 profiting from pre-service educators, many of whom will enter
5 the profession in debt; therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
7 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
8 encourage the State Board of Education to stop using edTPA as
9 the teacher certification for licensure; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
11 presented to the State Superintendent, the Illinois State Board
12 of Education, and Pearson Education.