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HOUSE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, All children in Illinois are entitled to the facilities and resources needed for a high-quality education; and

WHEREAS, Many charter schools are in older, sometimes dilapidated buildings that require repair, such as tuckpointing, new roofs, or boilers; and

WHEREAS, Most children in existing charter schools do not have the necessary access to special education resource space, adequate space for physical education and athletics, and dining facilities; and

WHEREAS, Eleven jurisdictions (Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Mexico, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Utah, and Washington D.C.) currently offer facilities support for charter public schools through varying resources and can be an authority on best practices; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that the Task Force on Charter Public School Facilities is created to examine charter public school facilities issues, including the

1 following:

2 (1) an analysis of the current capital funds and  
3 facilities provisions in the Illinois Charter Schools Law  
4 for the purpose of ensuring equitable access;

5 (2) a comparative analysis of charter public school  
6 facilities funding and access across the United States; and

7 (3) recommendations for ensuring that charter public  
8 schools have equitable access to safe and appropriate  
9 facilities; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall consist of the  
11 following members:

12 (1) two members appointed by the Speaker of the House  
13 of Representatives;

14 (2) two members appointed by the Minority Leader of the  
15 House of Representatives;

16 (3) one member appointed by the State Superintendent of  
17 Education or his or her designee;

18 (4) the chief executive officer of a school district in  
19 a city having a population exceeding 500,000 or his or her  
20 designee;

21 (5) one member appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
22 Representatives, upon recommendation of an organization  
23 representing teachers in a school district in a city having  
24 a population exceeding 500,000;

25 (6) one member appointed by the Governor, upon

1 recommendation of a statewide organization representing  
2 charter public schools in the State;

3 (7) a principal of a currently operating,  
4 high-performing charter public school in the State,  
5 appointed by the State Superintendent of Education;

6 (8) one member appointed by the Governor, who is  
7 representative of a community organization that operates  
8 charter public schools, upon recommendation of that  
9 community organization;

10 (9) one member appointed by the Minority Leader of the  
11 House of Representatives, upon the recommendation of an  
12 organization representing the business community of the  
13 State;

14 (10) one member appointed by the Governor, upon  
15 recommendation of an education advocacy group that  
16 organizes parents and supports high-quality public-school  
17 options, including high-quality public charter schools;

18 (11) one member appointed by the state superintendent  
19 representing one of the ten currently operating  
20 Commission-approved charter public schools in this State,  
21 upon recommendation of the leadership of the  
22 Commission-approved charter public schools;

23 (12) one member appointed by the Governor, upon  
24 recommendation of a large, non-profit community  
25 development financial institution (CDFI) in Illinois that  
26 provides or has provided specialized loans, real estate

1 development, and additional forms of financial assistance  
2 to charter public schools in this State; and

3 (13) one member appointed by the state superintendent  
4 who represents a charter school outside of the City of  
5 Chicago; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That the members of the Task Force shall elect a  
7 chairperson from among their membership and that the State  
8 Charter School Commission shall provide administrative  
9 support; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That the members of the Task Force shall be  
11 appointed within 30 days after the adoption of this resolution  
12 and shall begin meeting no later than 30 days after the  
13 appointments are finalized; in the event the appointments by  
14 the Governor are not made within 30 days after the adoption of  
15 this resolution, the State Superintendent shall make such  
16 appointments within 15 days of the appointment deadline;  
17 members shall serve without compensation; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall issue a report making  
19 recommendations on any changes to State laws with regard to  
20 charter public school facilities access on or before January 9,  
21 2019 and that the Task Force shall be dissolved upon issuance  
22 of this report; and be it further

1           RESOLVED, That the report filed with the Clerk of the House  
2 of Representatives shall be provided to the Clerk in electronic  
3 form only, in the manner that the Clerk shall direct; and be it  
4 further

5           RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be  
6 delivered to the Governor, the State Superintendent of  
7 Education, the State Charter School Commission, and the Chief  
8 Executive Officer of the City of Chicago School District 299.