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LRB100 12172 MST 24552 r

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, In 1993, the United States Congress enacted the Professional and Amateur Sports Protection Act (28 U.S.C. §3701 et seq.), prohibiting states and local governments from authorizing sports betting on amateur and professional athletes or games; and

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WHEREAS, The Professional and Amateur Sports Protection Act makes it unlawful to advertise, authorize, operate, promote, or sponsor betting or wagering on one or more competitive games in which amateur or professional athletes participate or are intended to participate, or on one or more performances of those athletes in those games; and

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WHEREAS, As a result of the exceptions contained in the Professional and Amateur Sports Protection Act, sports betting is permitted in Nevada, Delaware, Oregon, and Montana, but prohibited in the remaining 46 states of the United States, including Illinois; and

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WHEREAS, As a result of the exceptions in the Professional and Amateur Sports Protection Act, Nevada reported \$4.2 billion and \$4.5 billion in total sports betting wagers, in 2015 and 2016 respectively, and reported revenues of \$231 million and \$219 million in 2015 and 2016, respectively; and

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1           WHEREAS, The Professional and Amateur Sports Protection  
2 Act discriminates against Illinois and deprives the State of  
3 the opportunities afforded to Nevada, Delaware, Oregon, and  
4 Montana to raise millions of dollars in revenue that would  
5 potentially flow from the legislative authorization of sports  
6 betting in this State; therefore, be it

7           RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH GENERAL  
8 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
9 CONCURRING HEREIN, that we urge President Trump and the United  
10 States Congress to remove the ban on sports betting or wagering  
11 by repealing the Professional and Amateur Sports Protection  
12 Act; and be it further

13           RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be  
14 delivered to President Donald Trump, U.S. Senate Majority  
15 Leader Mitch McConnell, U.S. Senate Minority Leader Charles  
16 Schumer, U.S. Speaker of the House of Representatives Paul  
17 Ryan, U.S. House of Representatives Minority Leader Nancy  
18 Pelosi, and all members of the Illinois Congressional  
19 Delegation.