



SR0680

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1 SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The General Assembly and the Governor have failed
3 to enact a State budget for the last 23 months; and

4 WHEREAS, The State adds approximately 11 million dollars in
5 debt every day that a budget is not signed into law; and

6 WHEREAS, The State has not met its contractual obligations
7 to the numerous vendors that render services; and

8 WHEREAS, It is costing taxpayers approximately 44 thousand
9 dollars every day we convene for special session; and

10 WHEREAS, The State, its local municipalities, and their
11 institutions continue to suffer from continual downgrades from
12 all of the major credit rating agencies - nearing junk status;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, The lack of a State budget has caused homeless
15 shelters to close on Christmas Eve, youth violence prevention
16 centers to go out of business, domestic abuse programs to be
17 defunded, and a myriad of other essential human services needs
18 have gone unfunded; and

19 WHEREAS, The General Assembly and the Governor have not met

1 their duty to fully fund the future of our State - the
2 education of the children; and

3 WHEREAS, Teacher strikes, school closings, instructional
4 time decreases, and faculty layoffs loom over school districts
5 and institutions of higher learning across the State; and

6 WHEREAS, Thousands of students, like generations of
7 Illinois' students before them, continue to count on the
8 funding of the Monetary Assistance Program to create promising
9 futures for themselves and equal access to education; and

10 WHEREAS, Without the guarantee of those funds in-state
11 students are seeking educational advancement outside of
12 Illinois and over 16,000 thousand students migrated to
13 out-of-state universities; and

14 WHEREAS, As economic development and opportunity in the
15 State have become less available particularly to ethnic and
16 racial minorities - Illinois has seen a historic spike in the
17 murder rate; and

18 WHEREAS, For the 70th month in a row, Illinois has had the
19 highest unemployment rate among African Americans in the
20 nation, nearing 15%; and

1 WHEREAS, Forty-four percent of African American young men
2 between the ages of 20-24 in Illinois are unemployed and out of
3 school; and

4 WHEREAS, Things are not getting better for middle class and
5 poor citizens of our State during this historic budget impasse
6 - people are hurting; therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH GENERAL
8 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we urge the Governor to
9 wholeheartedly commit to enacting a State budget; and be it
10 further

11 RESOLVED, That the Governor is urged to call a meeting with
12 legislative leaders to negotiate a budget; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That the Governor is urged to dedicate all of his
14 resources to work toward a solution to the budget impasse; and
15 be it further

16 RESOLVED, That the Governor and legislative leaders are
17 urged to meet daily until a budget is enacted.