



SR0224

LRB101 11589 ALS 57896 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate support Northwestern Pritzker School of Law, John Marshall Law School, Northern Illinois University College of Law, University of Chicago Law School, Southern Illinois University School of Law, Chicago-Kent College of Law, DePaul University College of Law, Loyola University Chicago School of Law, and University of Illinois College of Law and their pledge to improve the well-being and mental health of their campuses and to better address mental health issues among lawyers, starting with law students; and

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WHEREAS, Improving wellness and advancing legal education are synchronized interests; addressing these issues within the State's communities will result in happier and healthier individuals and better students and contributing members of the legal profession; and

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WHEREAS, The legal profession has a lengthy history of substance abuse and often penalizes individuals seeking help; poor student or practitioner health is not a necessary byproduct of a rigorous legal education and needs to be treated as the scourge of the profession that it is; students left behind are not due to a failure of personal strength but are testaments to the collective failure to uplift one another and

1 raise the standards of the legal trade; and

2 WHEREAS, Law school administrations are joining efforts to
3 facilitate well-being and recognize mental health issues, to
4 listen to the concerns of the students and be responsive to
5 their well-being and mental health struggles, and to build a
6 school atmosphere where well-being and mental health is
7 recognized as an immediate issue which deserves attention and
8 resolution; therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL
10 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we recognize the need
11 to end the stigma surrounding mental health, stand in support
12 of the efforts by the law schools of our State to provide
13 better access to care, and urge them to continue in their
14 efforts to address this issue; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
16 presented to Richard C. Minott, President of Northwestern
17 Pritzker School of Law, Hannah G. Johnson, President of John
18 Marshall Law School, Victor Zamora, President of Northern
19 Illinois University College of Law, Mihai F. Chitulescu,
20 President of University of Chicago Law School, Jacob Welch,
21 President of Southern Illinois University School of Law, Dawn
22 Peacock, President of Chicago-Kent College of Law, Ashlee
23 Germany, President of DePaul University College of Law, Brian

1 P. Gibbons, President of Loyola University Chicago School of
2 Law, and Ashley G. Kennedy, President of University of Illinois
3 College of Law as an expression of our esteem and respect.