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1 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 30

2 WHEREAS, The astronomical number of vacant homes and "for
3 sale" signs in Illinois communities reveal the dramatic impact
4 the current economic crisis has had on homeowners throughout
5 this State; and

6 WHEREAS, In the third quarter of 2010, Illinois posted the
7 nation's fourth largest foreclosure activity total, with
8 47,802 properties receiving foreclosure filings, according to
9 Realty Trac; and

10 WHEREAS, The foreclosure and housing crisis is a setback in
11 years of gains Illinoisans had achieved in the frontiers of
12 homeownership and wealth creation; for the first time, there
13 seems to be a regressive pattern where homeowners are moving
14 towards becoming homeless; these alarming statistics are the
15 impetus for public intervention that will examine and provide
16 direction on the residential mortgage foreclosure crisis and
17 housing availability in this State; and

18 WHEREAS, Communities throughout this State are in need of
19 additional resources to creatively respond to the detrimental
20 issues caused by the enormous tide of foreclosures and the
21 housing crisis; and

1 WHEREAS, The Comprehensive Housing Planning Act created
2 the State Housing Task Force, which is charged with creating a
3 comprehensive and unified policy for the allocation of
4 resources for affordable housing and supportive services for
5 historically underserved populations throughout the State, in
6 order to accomplish the following:

7 (1) address the need to make available quality housing at a
8 variety of price points in communities throughout the State;

9 (2) overcome the shortage of affordable housing, which
10 threatens the viability of many communities;

11 (3) meet the need for safe, sanitary, and accessible
12 affordable housing and supportive services for people with
13 disabilities;

14 (4) promote a full range of quality housing choices near
15 jobs, transit, and other amenities;

16 (5) meet the needs of constituencies that have been
17 historically underserved and segregated due to barriers and
18 trends in the existing housing market or insufficient
19 resources;

20 (6) facilitate the preservation of ownership of existing
21 homes and rental housing in communities;

22 (7) create new housing opportunities and, where
23 appropriate, promote mixed-income communities; and

24 (8) encourage development of State incentives for
25 communities to create a mix of housing to meet the needs of
26 current and future residents; and

1 WHEREAS, The State of Illinois' Annual 2011 Comprehensive
2 Housing Plan published by the State Housing Task Force
3 prioritizes foreclosure prevention and mitigation; and

4 WHEREAS, The duties of the State Housing Task Force clearly
5 encompass the ability to study and make recommendations on the
6 impact of foreclosures on Illinois residents and communities;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, Recognizing the solutions to the foreclosure
9 crisis are as complex as the issue, there is a pressing need
10 for the State Housing Task Force to pursue strategies advancing
11 foreclosure prevention, mitigation, and actions to redevelop
12 impacted communities; therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL
14 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
15 CONCURRING HEREIN, that the Task Force shall meet to organize
16 and select a Foreclosure Prevention and Mitigation Working
17 Group (the "Foreclosure Working Group"), of which the
18 chairperson shall be the Executive Director of the Illinois
19 Housing Development Authority or a designee and the
20 co-chairperson will be a non-governmental Foreclosure Working
21 Group member elected by the Foreclosure Working Group; and be
22 it further

1 RESOLVED, That the Foreclosure Working Group shall be
2 comprised of a range of constituencies and stakeholders that
3 can contribute to the study of the foreclosure crisis and
4 formulate recommendations to address the impact of foreclosure
5 on communities, and may include Task Force members and
6 additional experts to provide a thorough and comprehensive
7 foreclosure prevention, mitigation and impact strategy; the
8 members shall be, with vacancies to be filled in the same
9 manner as original selections, as follows:

10 (1) one member of the Senate appointed by the President of
11 the Senate and one member of the Senate appointed by the
12 Minority Leader of the Senate;

13 (2) one member of the House of Representatives appointed by
14 the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and one member of
15 the House of Representatives appointed by the Minority Leader
16 of the House of Representatives;

17 (3) representatives of the housing industry,
18 not-for-profit community, and private financial institutions
19 appointed by the Task Force with at least:

20 (A) two representatives of certified HUD housing
21 organizations that provides services to homeowners at risk
22 of losing their home to foreclosure;

23 (B) one representative from academia with a background
24 or expertise in housing trends and financial regulations;

25 (C) one representative of a non-profit legal

1 organization that has experience with the foreclosure
2 process;

3 (D) one person with a background in affordable housing
4 issues;

5 (E) two persons with a background in housing policy and
6 research;

7 (F) one homeowner who has been impacted by the
8 foreclosure crisis in Illinois; and

9 (G) one representative of a local financial or lending
10 institution;

11 (4) representatives of governmental agencies familiar with
12 the foreclosure and housing crisis appointed by the Task Force:

13 (A) one representative of the Division of Banking
14 within the Department of Financial and Professional
15 Regulation;

16 (B) one representative of the Illinois Housing
17 Development Authority's Neighborhood Stabilization
18 Program;

19 (C) one representative of the Office of the Attorney
20 General that works directly with housing subprime lending
21 patterns and the foreclosure mitigation process; and

22 (D) one representative of the Department of Human
23 Services' Homeless Prevention Program; and be it further

24 RESOLVED, That the Foreclosure Working Group will serve for
25 a period of not less than 2 years from the date of the first

1 Working Group meeting; and may continue to serve for an
2 extended period at the recommendation of the Working Group
3 members based on the need to address foreclosure prevention,
4 mitigation, and impact issues; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That the Working Group shall meet at least 4
6 times a year at the call of the chairperson; members of the
7 Foreclosure Working Group shall serve without compensation.
8 Members of the State Housing Task Force may be reimbursed for
9 reasonable expenses incurred as a result of their duties as
10 members of the Task Force from funds appropriated by the
11 General Assembly for that purpose; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That the Illinois Housing Development Authority
13 shall provide staffing, administrative, and financial support
14 to the Foreclosure Working Group; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That the duties of the Foreclosure Working Group
16 shall include all of the following:

17 (1) monitor the emerging housing problems in Illinois and
18 make recommendations concerning these issues; and

19 (2) oversee actions to prevent foreclosures and mitigate
20 their impact on local communities; and

21 (3) oversee and provide insight about the rebuilding
22 process caused by the housing crisis and provide a
23 comprehensive and holistic approach to the rebuilding process;

1 and

2 (4) divide the work of the Foreclosure Working into 2
3 primary focus areas as follows:

4 (A) Foreclosure Impact: This area shall be responsible
5 for monitoring the foreclosure activity in Illinois and
6 determining approaches to mitigate the impact on local
7 communities;

8 (B) Housing Education and Outreach: This area shall be
9 responsible for recommending outreach, counseling, and
10 education programs focused on foreclosure prevention and
11 other affordable housing programs needed to stabilize
12 communities in Illinois; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That the State Housing Task Force shall submit an
14 addendum to reports required by the Comprehensive Housing
15 Planning Act, which shall include Foreclosure Working Group
16 recommendations for effective policy advisements regarding
17 housing policies and funding mechanisms to address the
18 foreclosure and housing crisis, and shall provide an update on
19 general housing trends affecting the residents in this State.