



HR1051

LRB100 21867 ALS 39789 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville  
3 originated in 1957 as the result of intense local demand for  
4 convenient access to public higher education by the citizens of  
5 the Southwestern Illinois Council for Higher Education and  
6 their elected public officials; and

7           WHEREAS, From 1996 through 2016, Southern Illinois  
8 University Edwardsville demonstrated a 26.8 percent growth in  
9 total enrollment while the enrollment of Southern Illinois  
10 University Carbondale has been decreasing; current enrollment  
11 at both universities is almost identical; and

12           WHEREAS, Enrollment at Southern Illinois University  
13 Edwardsville has increased steadily from 11,808 (total  
14 enrollment) and 9,343 (full-time enrollment) in the fall of  
15 1991 to 13,796 (total enrollment) and 11,523 (full-time  
16 enrollment) in the fall of 2017, resulting in a 16.8 percent  
17 and 23.3 percent increase in total and full-time enrollment  
18 respectively ; and

19           WHEREAS, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville has  
20 been recognized by the Illinois Board of Higher Education as  
21 one of the fastest growing public universities in Illinois; the  
22 campuses of Southern Illinois University Carbondale and

1 Southern Illinois University have grown and evolved at  
2 different rates; and

3 WHEREAS, The distribution of the state appropriation to the  
4 SIU Board of Trustees was historically viewed as warranting a  
5 split of 60 percent of funding going to the Carbondale campus  
6 and 40 percent of funding to the Edwardsville campus; and

7 WHEREAS, The GRF funds appropriated by the SIU Board of  
8 Trustees has been approximately disbursed with 64 percent going  
9 to the Carbondale campus and only 36 percent going to the  
10 Edwardsville campus, a failure to live up to the historical  
11 expectation dating back to the inception of the Edwardsville  
12 campus; and

13 WHEREAS, Current and future enrollment trends warrant an  
14 investigation into the governance and funding of the two  
15 separate campuses; and

16 WHEREAS, The SIU Board of Trustees voted down a proposal to  
17 reallocate approximately \$5.1 million in state funds in order  
18 to begin to meet the 60 percent/40 percent expected levels;  
19 therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
21 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we

1 urge the Illinois Board of Higher Education to conduct a study  
2 in regards to the governance structure of the Southern Illinois  
3 University system and the feasibility and viability of becoming  
4 two distinct universities with separate Boards of Trustees, as  
5 outlined in HB 1292; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That the study will review the practicability of  
7 maintaining a single board of trustees with membership outlined  
8 in HB 1293, and whether an appropriation that recognizes  
9 student enrollment, such as outlined in HB 1294, will be an  
10 equitable distribution of state funds; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be  
12 delivered to the Chair of the Illinois Board of Higher  
13 Education, the Chair of the Southern Illinois University Board  
14 of Trustees, the Southern Illinois University Edwardsville  
15 Chancellor, and the Southern Illinois University Carbondale  
16 Chancellor.