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LRB101 15289 MST 64466 r

1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, According to The K-12 Cybersecurity Resource
3 Center (Center), there were 122 cataloged publicly-disclosed
4 cybersecurity incidents affecting 199 public K-12 education
5 agencies across 38 states during calendar year 2018; and

6 WHEREAS, The Center reports that there is a new
7 publicly-reported incident every three days of the calendar
8 year; and

9 WHEREAS, Primarily, the cyber incidents reported in 2018
10 were data breaches, including the unauthorized disclosure of
11 data due to human error, by vendors in partnership with school
12 districts, by students to modify student records, and by
13 external actors, often for malicious purposes; and

14 WHEREAS, This increase in cyber threats directed at school
15 districts continued into 2019, including in Illinois where
16 school districts across the State have been hit by
17 cybersecurity breaches; and

18 WHEREAS, In August 2019, the personal information of 53,000
19 students and 3,100 educators in Naperville District 203 and
20 Indian Prairie District 204 was exposed following a data breach
21 in connection to student assessments; and

1 WHEREAS, In September 2019, Rockford Public Schools were
2 without Internet or access to student records for several days
3 following a ransomware attack; and

4 WHEREAS, The Division of Elementary and Secondary
5 Education for the State of Arkansas recently created the P-12
6 Cyber Threat Response Team (Team), a small group of IT
7 professionals who provide onsite support at no cost to a school
8 district whenever an Arkansas school district is faced with a
9 cyber threat; and

10 WHEREAS, The Team works to ensure that school districts
11 know they are not alone when faced with a cyber threat and to
12 increase communication between schools and other interested
13 entities; and

14 WHEREAS, In the face of constant cybersecurity threats,
15 which are only going to increase in future years as the use of
16 technology and the Internet become ever more prevalent in
17 schools across the United States, it is imperative that
18 Illinois works to protect school personnel, students, and their
19 families from unauthorized data breaches and cybersecurity
20 threats; therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE

1 HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE
2 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that we urge the Illinois State Board
3 of Education, by the 2020-2021 school year, to establish a P-12
4 Cyber Threat Response Team within the State Board of Education;
5 and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That the P-12 Cyber Threat Response Team shall
7 provide assistance to public schools, early childhood
8 providers, and special education facilities across the State
9 when faced with a cybersecurity threat; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
11 delivered to the Darren Reisberg, Chair of the State Board of
12 Education, and Dr. Carmen Ayala, State Superintendent of
13 Education.