



HR0860

LRB101 21573 MST 72499 r

1

HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, On May 15, 2020, several members of the General
3 Assembly received panicked phone calls and emails concerning
4 private personal identification information, such as social
5 security numbers, addresses, and birth dates, being published
6 publicly on the Illinois Department of Employment Security's
7 (IDES) website; and

8 WHEREAS, The private information being published by IDES
9 pertained to tens of thousands of individuals who had applied
10 for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) benefits as a result
11 of the government shut down of businesses in response to the
12 COVID-19 pandemic; and

13 WHEREAS, Governor Pritzker and IDES entered into two no-bid
14 contracts with private sector companies totaling \$22 million of
15 taxpayer money to help assist in upgrading IDES's antiquated
16 website and claims systems; and

17 WHEREAS, Prior to May 11, 2020, the day the new IDES became
18 operational, the general public and members of the General
19 Assembly were assured that upon completion of the upgrades to
20 the system then IDES would be able to handle the large number
21 of applications more efficiently, and the application process
22 for unemployment benefits would be easier and more secure; and

1 WHEREAS, Since the beginning of the government shut down of
2 businesses on March 16, 2020, a record number of over one
3 million Illinoisans have filed for unemployment benefits, with
4 many having to repeatedly call IDES while waiting for weeks
5 without income; and

6 WHEREAS, Upon learning about the publication of the private
7 personal information on IDES's website, Representative Terri
8 Bryant immediately notified members of the Governor's staff and
9 the IDES staff and asked them to resolve the data breach; and

10 WHEREAS, The day following the data breach, having not
11 received sufficient answers as to how the breach happened and
12 who was affected, Representative Terri Bryant submitted a
13 letter to the Governor's office requesting those answers; and

14 WHEREAS, On May 21, 2020, five days after the request for
15 answers from the Governor's office and still not having
16 received an adequate response, a subsequent letter was sent
17 from several members of the House Republican Caucus asking that
18 the Governor respond; and

19 WHEREAS, Every day that goes by without knowing whose
20 information was published, how long the information was
21 available, and who was able to access the information leaves

1 thousands of Illinoisans, who are already suffering from job
2 loss, vulnerable to identity theft; therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
4 HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
5 the Auditor General is directed to conduct an audit of the
6 Illinois Department of Employment Security and the
7 unemployment benefits application system; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That the audit include, but not be limited to,
9 the following determinations:

10 (1) For what period of time the personal information of
11 unemployment applicants was available for access by other
12 applicants and the public;

13 (2) Whether or not the data breach has been fully
14 resolved;

15 (3) The possibility of another data breach;

16 (4) The number of applicants whose information was
17 published;

18 (5) The vulnerability to identity theft or other
19 security issues of those whose information was published;

20 (6) Any other vulnerabilities regarding the
21 information of the millions of Illinoisans who have applied
22 for unemployment benefits; and

23 (7) A review of the contracts awarded to Deloitte
24 Consulting for assisting IDES in the upgrading of its IT

1 services; and be it further

2 RESOLVED, That IDES and any other State agency or entity
3 having information relevant to the audit shall cooperate fully
4 and promptly in the conduct of the audit; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That the Auditor General shall commence this
6 audit as soon as possible and report his findings and
7 recommendations upon completion to the Governor and each of the
8 four leaders of the General Assembly; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That the Legislative Audit Commission is urged to
10 review the findings of this audit in a public meeting, and the
11 General Assembly is urged to take any actions that it deems
12 necessary or desirable to implement the recommendations made by
13 the audit and to remedy any problems or dysfunctions uncovered
14 by the audit; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
16 delivered to Governor JB Pritzker, Department of Employment
17 Security Acting Director Thomas Chan, Auditor General Frank J.
18 Mautino, and Legislative Audit Commission Executive Director
19 Jane Stricklin.