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SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Hazard mitigation is the effort to reduce loss of
3 life and property by lessening the impact of disasters; it is
4 most effective when implemented under a comprehensive,
5 long-term mitigation plan; and

6 WHEREAS, The Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program,
7 administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency
8 (FEMA), is designed to assist states and local communities in
9 implementing a sustained pre-disaster natural hazard
10 mitigation program; and

11 WHEREAS, Recently enacted federal legislation, the
12 Disaster Recovery Reform Act, makes available new dollars for
13 states and communities to undertake pre-disaster mitigation
14 measures and creates new incentives for states to build
15 resiliently; and

16 WHEREAS, Since 1908, natural disasters have cost the
17 country over \$1 trillion dollars; and

18 WHEREAS, Disasters affect the local and state economies in
19 lost payrolls, lost sales and income tax, and increased
20 disaster recovery times; and

1 WHEREAS, According to a FEMA commissioned study conducted
2 by the National Institute of Building Sciences, every \$1 spent
3 on hazard mitigation provides the nation with \$6 in future
4 benefits; and

5 WHEREAS, Twenty-five percent of small businesses that are
6 impacted by a natural disaster never reopen their doors; and

7 WHEREAS, September is National Preparedness Month in
8 recognition of the need for all Americans to prepare and plan
9 for recovery after a disaster; and

10 WHEREAS, Mitigation planning is a key process used to break
11 the cycle of disaster damage, reconstruction, and repeated
12 damage; and

13 WHEREAS, Effective pre-disaster mitigation reduces the
14 demand for relief services on volunteer organizations such as
15 disaster rescue and recovery teams, along with food banks and
16 homeless shelters who serve our communities by changing their
17 operations to provide additional services to those affected by
18 disaster; and

19 WHEREAS, The brave men and women who, as first responders,
20 selflessly provide aid in a disaster to safeguard citizens
21 should be commended and recognized; and

1 WHEREAS, Communities should be encouraged to build
2 resiliently and develop long-range mitigation strategies for
3 protecting people and property from future hazard events;
4 therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL
6 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we declare the week of
7 September 1- 7, 2019 as "Resiliency Week" to raise public
8 awareness about the continuing need to plan for future
9 disasters by instituting a predisaster mitigation strategy.