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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, High-quality early childhood care and education services are proven by research to play a positive role in the education and healthy development of young children; and

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WHEREAS, Research has shown that maltreatment has a significant impact on healthy brain development, particularly in the first three years of life; and

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WHEREAS, Interventions carried out during critical periods can be effective in mitigating the negative impacts of maltreatment; and

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WHEREAS, For decades, Illinois has invested substantial State resources into its early care and education system and, with the creation of the Illinois Commission on Equitable Early Childhood Education and Care Funding, will remain one of the nation's leading states in supporting young children; and

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WHEREAS, State-funded early care and education programs have systems and policies in place to identify and enroll underrepresented and underserved populations; and

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WHEREAS, In 2013 and again in 2018, the State's Early Learning Council identified eight priority populations and

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1 encouraged communities and individual early care and education
2 programs to increase their service to these priority
3 populations; and

4 WHEREAS, One of the eight priority populations identified
5 is the number of children and families with Department of
6 Children and Family Services (DCFS) involvement; and

7 WHEREAS, Nearly 45 percent of Youth in Care are under the
8 age of six; and

9 WHEREAS, Public Act 100-860 provides that families with
10 children under the age of five who have an open intact family
11 services case with DCFS are eligible for child care assistance
12 under the Department of Human Services' (IDHS) Child Care
13 Assistance Program (CCAP); and

14 WHEREAS, Public Act 100-860 also provides that families
15 with children under the age of five who have an open intact
16 family services case with DCFS shall remain eligible for child
17 care assistance six months after the child's intact family
18 services case is closed, regardless of whether the child's
19 parents or other relatives as defined by rule are working or
20 participating in employment or education or training programs;
21 and

1 WHEREAS, The State's early care and education system is
2 complex, with multiple State agencies administering a myriad of
3 programs; and

4 WHEREAS, Despite systems in place at State agencies to
5 identify and enroll children and families with DCFS involvement
6 into high-quality early care and education programs, data show
7 that not enough Youth in Care under the age of six are enrolled
8 in programs; and

9 WHEREAS, The State has created and funded innovative
10 solutions to address priority populations, such as the Illinois
11 Pregnant and Parenting Youth in Care (IPPYC) Home Visiting
12 pilot, which provides evidence-based home visiting services to
13 pregnant or parenting teens or young adults who are in foster
14 care and their children; and

15 WHEREAS, With passage of the federal Families First
16 Prevention Services Act (FFPSA), the State must put a renewed
17 focus on connecting this underserved population with
18 high-quality early care and education services; therefore, be
19 it

20 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL
21 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that the High-Quality Early
22 Childhood Care and Education Advisory Committee is created and

1 charged with the task of producing recommendations for
2 enrolling more children and families in high-quality care and
3 education programs; and be it further

4 RESOLVED, That the Committee shall consist of the following
5 members, who shall serve without compensation:

6 (1) the (DCFS) Deputy Director-Permanent Services or
7 his or her designee;

8 (2) the (DCFS) Deputy Director-Intact Services or his
9 or her designee;

10 (3) the (DCFS) Deputy Director-Education & Transition
11 Services or his or her designee;

12 (4) the (DCFS) Deputy Director-Research/Child
13 Well-Being or his or her designee;

14 (5) the (DCFS) Deputy Director-Contract Administration
15 or his or her designee;

16 (6) the (DCFS) Deputy Director-Licensing or his or her
17 designee;

18 (7) the (DCFS) Deputy Director-Monitoring or his or her
19 designee;

20 (8) the (DCFS) Administrator-Child & Family Policy or
21 his or her designee;

22 (9) 3 members who represent Point of Service agencies,
23 appointed by the Director of the Department of Children and
24 Family Services;

25 (10) the Executive Director of the Governor's Office of

1 Early Childhood Development or his or her designee;

2 (11) the Chair of the Illinois State Board of Education
3 or his or her designee; and

4 (12) the Director of the Department of Human Services
5 or his or her designee; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That the Committee shall convene within 60 days
7 of the adoption of this resolution and shall select a
8 chairperson at its first meeting; the Committee shall
9 thereafter meet on a regular schedule, no fewer than three
10 times before submitting its recommendations; and

11 RESOLVED, That the Early Learning Council of the Governor's
12 Office of Early Childhood Development shall provide
13 administrative support for the Committee; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That the Committee shall submit its final report
15 to the General Assembly no later than December 31, 2020 and,
16 upon the filing of the report, is dissolved; and be further

17 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
18 delivered to the Department of Children and Family Services,
19 the Governor's Office of Early Childhood Development, the
20 Illinois State Board of Education, and the Department of Human
21 Services.