



SR1182

LRB101 21483 LAW 72173 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, Reliable, clean, and affordable electricity is vital to Illinois for economic growth, jobs, and the overall interests of its citizens; and

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WHEREAS, Illinois' nuclear power plants provide over half of the State's total electricity generation and are licensed to generate affordable electricity for Illinois families and businesses into the future; and

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WHEREAS, Illinois had the twentieth lowest average price of electricity across all sectors in 2019, and low-cost energy resources give the State a significant advantage for attracting and retaining businesses of all kinds and provide reliable electricity to Illinois families; and

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WHEREAS, Nuclear plants help Illinois avoid 45 million metric tons of carbon emissions each year, equivalent to almost 10 million cars or 70% of current State carbon emissions; and

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WHEREAS, Within Illinois, six nuclear plants comprise approximately 54% of the State's generation and 29% of its generating capacity; and

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WHEREAS, Illinois' nuclear plants account for \$149 million

1 in estimated annual State tax revenues; and

2 WHEREAS, Industry analysts and consultants, academic
3 analyses and studies, and market publications have reached
4 various conclusions regarding the economic viability of the
5 Braidwood, Byron, Dresden, and LaSalle nuclear power plants;
6 the shutdown of one or more of these valuable assets prior to
7 its license expiration will most likely cause economic, social,
8 and environmental harm to Illinois families and businesses; and

9 WHEREAS, Closing even a few nuclear power plants could make
10 achieving State and national carbon reduction goals difficult
11 or impossible; and

12 WHEREAS, It is of the highest importance that the State of
13 Illinois preserve its existing clean energy resources as a
14 means of achieving its clean energy goals, keeping energy costs
15 stable and reliable, and preserving jobs; therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL
17 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we urge the Illinois
18 Commerce Commission to prepare a report examining the impact on
19 residential, commercial, and industrial electric rates from
20 the closure of Illinois' Braidwood, Byron, Dresden, and LaSalle
21 nuclear power plants prior to the expiration of their
22 respective licenses; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That we urge the Illinois Power Agency to prepare
2 a report showing how the closure of the Braidwood, Byron,
3 Dresden, and LaSalle nuclear power plants prior to the
4 expiration of their respective licenses will affect
5 reliability and capacity for the Midwest region; and be it
6 further

7 RESOLVED, That we request the findings in those reports to
8 include potential market-based solutions to address any
9 negative impacts on residential, commercial, and industrial
10 electric rates, the negative affect on reliability and capacity
11 for the Midwest region, and the negative environmental impacts
12 from the closure of Illinois' nuclear power plants prior to the
13 expiration of their respective licenses, including an
14 examination of a Fixed Resource Requirement that prioritizes
15 carbon-free generators; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That we request the findings in those reports to
17 include multiple scenarios, wherein one, two, three, and four
18 of these nuclear power plants close prior to the expiration of
19 their respective licenses; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That we request the findings from those reports
21 to be presented to the General Assembly and the Governor before
22 November 10, 2020 for consideration and appropriate action; and

1 be it further

2 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
3 delivered to Governor JB Pritzker, Director of the Illinois
4 Power Agency Anthony Star, and Chairman of the Illinois
5 Commerce Commission Carrie Zalewski.