



SR1195

LRB101 21540 LAW 72368 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 urge the Illinois Environmental  
8 Protection Agency to prepare a report examining the carbon and  
9 air pollution impacts of the closure of the Braidwood, Byron,  
10 Dresden, and LaSalle nuclear plants prior to the expiration of  
11 their respective licenses; and be it further

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

21           RESOLVED, That we request the findings in those reports to  
22 include multiple scenarios, wherein one, two, three, and four

1 of these nuclear power plants close prior to the expiration of  
2 their respective licenses; and be it further

3 RESOLVED, That we request the findings from those reports  
4 to be presented to the General Assembly and the Governor before  
5 September 1, 2020 for consideration and appropriate action; and  
6 be it further

7 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be  
8 delivered to Governor JB Pritzker, Director of the Illinois  
9 Power Agency Anthony Star, Director of the Illinois  
10 Environmental Protection Agency John Kim, and Chairman of the  
11 Illinois Commerce Commission Carrie Zalewski.