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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, Reliable, clean, and affordable electricity is vital to Illinois' 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, The premature closure of nuclear power plants could increase electric prices for families and businesses by up to \$483,000,000 annually; 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

1 approximately 54% of the State's generation and 29% of its
2 generating capacity; and

3 WHEREAS, Illinois nuclear plants account for \$149 million
4 in estimated annual Illinois State tax revenues; and

5 WHEREAS, Industry analysts and consultants, academic
6 analyses and studies, and market publications have reached
7 various conclusions regarding the economic viability of some
8 Illinois nuclear power plants; the premature shutdown of one or
9 more of these valuable assets will most likely cause economic,
10 social, and environmental harm to Illinois families and
11 businesses; and

12 WHEREAS, Closing even a few nuclear power plants could make
13 achieving State and national carbon reduction goals difficult
14 or impossible; and

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

19 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL
20 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we urge PJM
21 Interconnection, LLC to expeditiously adopt market rules and

1 policies that will ensure the continued operation of the
2 existing fleet of nuclear power plants or the abatement of the
3 equivalent amount of emissions avoided by use of nuclear energy
4 generation in Illinois; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That we urge PJM Interconnection, LLC to prepare
6 a report showing how the premature closure of the Braidwood,
7 Byron, Dresden, and LaSalle nuclear power plants in Illinois
8 will affect reliability and capacity for the Midwest region and
9 the impact on wholesale electric rates; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That we urge the findings of this report to
11 include potential market-based options, including a Fixed
12 Resource Requirement that prioritizes carbon-free generators,
13 that could ensure that the premature closure of these nuclear
14 power plants does not occur and that the dire consequences to
15 the economy, jobs, and the environment would be averted; and be
16 it further

17 RESOLVED, That we urge PJM Interconnection, LLC to postpone
18 the next capacity auction until Illinois has an opportunity to
19 develop and implement a solution that will enable the State to
20 meet its clean energy goals; and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That we urge the findings from those reports to
22 be presented to the General Assembly and the Governor before

1 September 1, 2020 for consideration and appropriate action; and
2 be it further

3 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
4 delivered to Governor J.B. Prizker and Manu Asthana, President
5 and Chief Executive Officer of PJM Interconnection, LLC.