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HOUSE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Many Illinoisans with developmental disabilities encounter obstacles in their lives that can be overcome with technology; and

WHEREAS, Innovative supportive technology positively impacts the lives of Illinoisans with developmental disabilities at home and in their communities; and

WHEREAS, "Supportive technology" includes any product, device, or equipment that may be used to maintain, increase, or improve the functional capabilities of individuals with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, With continuing technological advancements, Illinoisans with developmental disabilities increasingly have more opportunities to access innovative supportive technology that lowers barriers that people with disabilities encounter in their daily lives and promotes their independence, confidence, and abilities; and

WHEREAS, Illinoisans recognize that supportive technology in the workplace can enable individuals with disabilities to perform jobs and tasks in order to seek or maintain employment to achieve independence; and

1 WHEREAS, The demand for direct support staff who assist
2 people with developmental disabilities is projected to
3 increase, and technology is one tool that can help supplement
4 and assist those who do the important work of supporting
5 individuals with disabilities; and

6 WHEREAS, While Illinois recognizes that human
7 relationships are an essential part of all of our lives,
8 supportive technology can connect people with disabilities
9 with additional assistance to supplement and enhance the
10 support they receive; and

11 WHEREAS, Illinois aims to ensure supportive technology
12 solutions are considered when determining the appropriate
13 services and supports to be provided for people with
14 developmental disabilities; and

15 WHEREAS, Illinois should commit to a statewide initiative
16 to expand access to supportive technology designed to improve
17 the lives of people with developmental disabilities;
18 therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
20 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
21 we urge the Governor and the State of Illinois to adopt the

1 principles of Technology First, a commitment that citizens
2 with development disabilities be afforded opportunities to
3 improve their lives through supportive technology and that
4 supportive technology be prioritized when considering services
5 and support needs; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That the Illinois Technology First Council is
7 created to study ways to expand the use of supportive
8 technology for Illinoisans with developmental disabilities;
9 and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That the Council shall consist of the following
11 members, who shall serve without compensation:

12 (1) The Director of the Illinois Department of Human
13 Services Division of Developmental Disabilities or his or
14 her designee, who shall serve as chair;

15 (2) The Director of the Illinois Council of
16 Developmental Disabilities or his or her designee; and

17 (3) The following members who shall be appointed by
18 the Director of the Illinois Department of Human Services
19 Division of Developmental Disabilities:

20 (a) One member who represents an organization that
21 works with or advocates on behalf of persons with
22 autism and related conditions;

23 (b) One member who represents an Independent
24 Service Coordination Agency in the State of Illinois;

1 (c) Two members who represent an intellectual or
2 developmental disability advocacy organization;

3 (d) One member who is familiar with supportive
4 technology research and who represents an institute of
5 higher learning;

6 (e) Two members representing existing service
7 providers who have significant experience using
8 supportive technology to provide services to people
9 with developmental disabilities;

10 (f) One member who is the parent or guardian of an
11 individual with a developmental disability who has
12 significant experience with the use of supportive
13 technology; and

14 (g) One member who is a person with a
15 developmental disability and who has significant
16 experience with the use of supportive technology; and
17 be it further

18 RESOLVED, That the Illinois Department of Human Services
19 Division of Developmental Disabilities shall provide
20 administrative support to the Council; and

21 RESOLVED, That the Council is charged with the following
22 tasks:

23 (1) Develop state policy to encourage the use of
24 supportive technology and to align Illinois Administrative

1 Code waiver service rules with that policy;

2 (2) Identify and address areas where sufficient
3 support is not currently available or where additional
4 options may be needed to assist those with developmental
5 disabilities to gain access to supportive technology;

6 (3) Identify best practices, effective partnerships,
7 and opportunities for shared services among existing
8 providers of developmental disabilities to increase
9 supportive technology opportunities for those with
10 developmental disabilities;

11 (4) Recommend ways to integrate supportive technology
12 into existing programs to move with school aged youth as
13 they transition into adult services;

14 (5) Develop recommendations on ways to expand the
15 Discovery and Personal Plan to include supportive
16 technology in the person-centered planning process; and

17 (6) Recommend system-level benchmarks for monitoring
18 use of supportive technology and person-centered outcomes
19 that demonstrate increased quality of life for persons
20 with developmental disabilities; and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That the council shall submit its final report
22 to the Governor and the Illinois General Assembly no later
23 than January 1, 2023 and is dissolved upon the filing of its
24 report; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
2 delivered to the Director of the Illinois Department of Human
3 Services Division of Developmental Disabilities and the
4 Governor.