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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, Families and communities throughout the United  
3 States share similar hopes and dreams of a good life that is  
4 free from worry about meeting basic needs, with reliable and  
5 fulfilling work, a dignified and healthy standard of living,  
6 and the ability to enjoy time with loved ones; and

7           WHEREAS, The United States faces the stress of multiple,  
8 overlapping crises, old and new, that prevent the achievement  
9 of these fundamental human rights and needs, in which the  
10 COVID-19 pandemic has killed over 500,000 United States  
11 residents including over 20,000 Illinoisans; more than  
12 10,000,000 United States workers remain unemployed and nearly  
13 7,000,000 more are not in the labor force but want a job;  
14 rising economic inequality has made working families  
15 vulnerable; tens of millions of individuals do not get the  
16 health care they need, and intensifying climate change  
17 increases the threats to our health, economy, and livelihoods;  
18 and

19           WHEREAS, These health, economic, and climate crises have  
20 magnified centuries-old injustices, causing high rates of  
21 death and hardship among Black, Brown, and Indigenous  
22 communities due to long-standing systemic racism, a fact  
23 spotlighted by an emerging, multiracial movement to end

1 violence against Black people; and

2 WHEREAS, These crises are causing the inequitable  
3 workloads of women, particularly women of color, to grow,  
4 especially as women of color overwhelmingly make up the  
5 essential workforce, bearing the weight of the increased care  
6 needs of children, the elderly, and the sick; and

7 WHEREAS, Even before the COVID-19 crisis, many rural  
8 communities and independent family farmers suffered from  
9 poverty, declining economic opportunity, and alarming rates of  
10 farm bankruptcy, including loss of land from Black farmers and  
11 the exploitation of Black, Brown, and Indigenous farmers  
12 caused by predatory and racist public, private, and  
13 governmental institutions and policies; and

14 WHEREAS, The root of our interlocking economic and  
15 environmental crises is society's historical willingness to  
16 treat some communities and workers as disposable; and

17 WHEREAS, It is necessary to counteract systemic injustice  
18 and value the dignity of all individuals in order to address  
19 unemployment, pandemics, or climate change and ensure the  
20 survival of the nation and the planet; and

21 WHEREAS, The choices made in response to these crises will

1 shape the United States direction for the 21st century and  
2 beyond, offering an opportunity to reshape our society to  
3 provide a good life for each of us and for our children and  
4 grandchildren; and

5 WHEREAS, The United States and the State of Illinois have  
6 the means to support fulfilling livelihoods for millions of  
7 people, Black, Indigenous, Brown, Latinx, Asian/Pacific  
8 Islander, White, immigrant, urban and rural, old and young, of  
9 many faiths, genders, abilities, and talents, while working to  
10 heal harms, protect communities, and invest in a future that  
11 fosters justice, not crisis; therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
13 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS,  
14 that:

15 (1) it is the duty of the Federal Government and the State  
16 government to respond to the crises of racial injustice, mass  
17 unemployment, a pandemic, and climate change with a bold and  
18 holistic national mobilization, an Agenda to Transform, Heal,  
19 and Renew by Investing in a Vibrant Economy (THRIVE) (referred  
20 to in this resolving clause as the Agenda), to build a society  
21 that enables:

- 22 (A) greater racial, economic, and gender justice;  
23 (B) dignified work;  
24 (C) healthy communities; and

1 (D) a stable climate; and

2 (2) such Agenda shall be assessed upon its ability to  
3 uphold its foundational pillars, including:

4 (A) creating millions of good, safe jobs with access  
5 to unions by:

6 (i) investing in projects including:

7 (I) upgrading our broken infrastructure to  
8 expand access to clean and affordable energy,  
9 transportation, high-speed broadband, and water,  
10 particularly for public systems;

11 (II) modernizing and retrofitting millions of  
12 homes, schools, offices, and industrial buildings  
13 to cut pollution and costs;

14 (III) investing in public health and care  
15 work, including by increasing jobs, protections,  
16 wages, and benefits for the historically unpaid  
17 and undervalued work of caring for children, the  
18 elderly, and the sick;

19 (IV) protecting and restoring wetlands,  
20 forests, and public lands, and cleaning up  
21 pollution in our communities;

22 (V) creating opportunities for family farmers  
23 and rural communities, including by untangling the  
24 hyper-consolidated food supply chain, bolstering  
25 regenerative agriculture, and investing in local  
26 and regional food systems that support farmers,

1 agricultural workers, healthy soil, and climate  
2 resilience; and

3 (VI) developing and transforming the  
4 industrial base of the United States, while  
5 creating high-skill, high-wage manufacturing jobs  
6 across the country, including by expanding  
7 manufacturing of clean technologies, reducing  
8 industrial pollution, and prioritizing clean,  
9 domestic manufacturing for the aforementioned  
10 investments;

11 (ii) prioritizing the mobilization of direct  
12 public investments, while excluding false solutions  
13 that:

14 (I) increase inequality;

15 (II) privatize public lands, water, or nature;

16 (III) violate human rights;

17 (IV) expedite the destruction of ecosystems;

18 or

19 (V) decrease union density or membership;

20 (iii) driving investment toward real full  
21 employment, where every individual who wishes to work  
22 has a viable pathway to a meaningful and dignified job  
23 with the right to form a union, including by  
24 establishing new public employment programs, as  
25 necessary; and

26 (iv) subjecting each job created under this Agenda

1 to high-road labor standards that:

2 (I) require family-sustaining wages and  
3 benefits, including child care support;

4 (II) ensure safe workplaces;

5 (III) protect the rights of workers to  
6 organize; and

7 (IV) prioritize the hiring of local workers to  
8 ensure wages stay within communities to stimulate  
9 economic activity;

10 (B) building the power of workers to fight inequality  
11 by:

12 (i) reversing the corporate erosion of workers'  
13 organizing rights and bargaining power so that  
14 millions of new clean energy jobs, as well as millions  
15 of existing low-wage jobs across the economy, become  
16 the family-supporting union jobs that everyone  
17 deserves, including by:

18 (I) Congress passing the bipartisan Protecting  
19 the Right to Organize Act;

20 (II) repealing the ban on secondary boycotts;

21 (III) requiring employer neutrality with  
22 regard to union organizing;

23 (IV) ensuring that "franchising" and other  
24 corporate structures may not be used to hinder  
25 collective bargaining on a company-wide, regional,  
26 or national basis;

1 (V) advancing sectoral bargaining in certain  
2 economic sectors; and

3 (VI) ensuring that no workers are  
4 misclassified as "independent contractors";

5 (ii) expanding union representation for all  
6 workers; and

7 (iii) creating ladders of opportunity,  
8 particularly for women and people of color, to access  
9 registered apprenticeship and pre-apprenticeship  
10 programs in communities of all sizes across the  
11 country;

12 (C) investing in Black, Brown, and Indigenous  
13 communities to build power and counteract racial and  
14 gender injustice by:

15 (i) directing at least 40 percent of investments  
16 to communities that have been excluded, oppressed, and  
17 harmed by racist and unjust practices, including:

18 (I) communities of color;

19 (II) low-income communities;

20 (III) deindustrialized communities; and

21 (IV) communities facing environmental  
22 injustice;

23 (ii) ensuring that investments in these  
24 communities enable:

25 (I) the creation of good jobs with  
26 family-sustaining wages;

1 (II) economic ownership opportunities that  
2 close the racial wealth gap;  
3 (III) pollution reduction;  
4 (IV) climate resilience;  
5 (V) small business support;  
6 (VI) economic opportunities for independent  
7 family farmers and ranchers; and  
8 (VII) the expansion of public services;  
9 (iii) ensuring that affected communities have the  
10 power to democratically plan, implement, and  
11 administer these projects;  
12 (iv) prioritizing local and equitable hiring and  
13 contracting that creates opportunities for:  
14 (I) people of color;  
15 (II) immigrants, regardless of immigration  
16 status;  
17 (III) formerly incarcerated individuals;  
18 (IV) women;  
19 (V) LGBTQIAP+ individuals;  
20 (VI) disabled and chronically ill individuals;  
21 and  
22 (VII) marginalized communities; and  
23 (v) providing access to quality workforce  
24 training, including through registered apprenticeships  
25 and pre-apprenticeships to ensure real pathways to  
26 good careers, including those that have historically



1           been inaccessible;

2           (D) strengthening and healing the nation-to-nation  
3 relationship with sovereign Native Nations, including by:

4           (i) making systemic changes in Federal policies to  
5 honor the environmental and social trust  
6 responsibilities to Native Nations and their Peoples,  
7 which are essential to tackling society's economic,  
8 environmental, and health crises;

9           (ii) strengthening Tribal sovereignty and  
10 enforcing Indian treaty rights by moving towards  
11 greater recognition and support of the inherent  
12 self-governance and sovereignty of these nations and  
13 their members; and

14           (iii) promulgating specific initiatives that  
15 reflect the nuanced relationships between the Native  
16 Nations, including:

17           (I) the confirmation by Congress that Tribal  
18 nations can exercise their full and inherent civil  
19 regulatory and adjudicatory authority over their  
20 own citizens, lands, and resources, and over  
21 activities within their Tribal lands;

22           (II) the codification of Free, Prior, and  
23 Informed Consent as it relates to Tribal  
24 consultation; and

25           (III) the implementation of the United Nations  
26 Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,

1 without qualification;

2 (E) combating environmental injustice and ensuring  
3 healthy lives for all, including by:

4 (i) curtailing air, water, and land pollution from  
5 all sources;

6 (ii) removing health hazards from communities;

7 (iii) replacing lead pipes to ensure clean water  
8 is available to all;

9 (iv) remediating the cumulative health and  
10 environmental impacts of toxic pollution and climate  
11 change;

12 (v) ensuring that affected communities have  
13 equitable access to public health resources that have  
14 been systemically denied, which includes:

15 (I) upgrading unhealthy and overcrowded homes,  
16 public schools, and public hospitals;

17 (II) ensuring access to healthy food, mental  
18 health support, and restorative justice; and

19 (III) investing in universal childcare, care  
20 for individuals with disabilities, senior care,  
21 and a robust care workforce; and

22 (vi) focusing these initiatives in Black, Brown,  
23 and Indigenous communities that have endured  
24 disproportionately high death rates from COVID-19 due  
25 to higher exposure to air pollution and other  
26 cumulative health hazards as a result of decades of

1 environmental racism;

2 (F) averting climate and environmental catastrophe,  
3 including by:

4 (i) contributing to a livable climate and  
5 environment for today and for future generations,  
6 including by:

7 (I) staying below 1.5 degrees Celsius of  
8 global warming;

9 (II) building climate resilience to keep  
10 communities safe; and

11 (III) ensuring sustainable resource use;

12 (ii) deploying investments and standards in the  
13 electricity, transportation, buildings,  
14 manufacturing, lands, and agricultural sectors to spur  
15 the largest expansion in history of clean, renewable  
16 energy, emissions reductions, climate resilience, and  
17 sustainable resource use;

18 (iii) transforming the power sector in order to  
19 move the country, by not later than 2035, to carbon  
20 pollution-free electricity that passes an  
21 environmental justice screen to prevent concentrating  
22 pollution in Black, Brown, Indigenous, and poor  
23 communities;

24 (iv) prioritizing materials and parts that meet  
25 high labor, environmental, and human rights standards  
26 throughout the supply chain;

1 (v) supporting sustainable, domestic production of  
2 healthy, nutritious food that pays independent farmers  
3 and ranchers a fair price for their land stewardship;  
4 and

5 (vi) ensuring that funding under this Agenda goes  
6 to workers and communities affected by the economic  
7 and environmental crises, not to corporate fossil fuel  
8 polluters;

9 (G) ensuring fairness for workers and communities  
10 affected by economic transitions by:

11 (i) guaranteeing that workers and communities in  
12 industries and regions in economic transition due to  
13 COVID-19, climate change, and other economic shocks  
14 receive:

15 (I) stable wages and benefits, including full  
16 pension and health care;

17 (II) early retirement offerings;

18 (III) crisis and trauma support; and

19 (IV) equitable job placement; and

20 (ii) investing in transitioning areas to support:

21 (I) economic diversification;

22 (II) high quality job creation;

23 (III) community reinvestment;

24 (IV) retooling and conversion;

25 (V) reclamation and remediation of closed and  
26 abandoned facilities and sites;

1 (VI) child and adult care infrastructure; and  
2 (VII) funding to shore up budget shortfalls in  
3 local and State governments; and  
4 (H) reinvesting in public sector institutions that  
5 enable workers and communities to thrive by:

6 (i) rebuilding vital public services and  
7 strengthening social infrastructure in cities and  
8 counties, health care systems, schools, the postal  
9 service, and other services;

10 (ii) investing in equitable public education  
11 opportunities, including career and technical  
12 education pathways that prepare youth, especially  
13 girls; Black, Brown, and Indigenous students; students  
14 with disabilities; students from low-income families;  
15 and other students from marginalized groups, for  
16 high-quality jobs of the future, and state of the art  
17 technology and schools, so that from the beginning  
18 students are prepared to transform society and  
19 preserve democracy;

20 (iii) investing in the workers who provide care to  
21 children, the elderly, and communities burdened by  
22 neglect;

23 (iv) creating new public institutions, inspired by  
24 and improving upon New Deal-era institutions, to  
25 ensure universal access to critical resources and to  
26 strategically and coherently mobilize and channel

1 investments, in line with the above priorities, at the  
2 scale and pace that these times require; and

3 (v) coupling this institutional renewal with  
4 democratic governance and accountability to correct  
5 the systemic misallocation of resources and  
6 representation that prevents families and communities  
7 from meeting fundamental human needs and pursuing  
8 fulfilling lives.