



HR0170

LRB102 17801 LAW 24129 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to express our grave concerns and those
4 of our constituents about the unfairness of testing during the
5 2020-2021 school year due to the COVID-19 pandemic;
6 specifically, testing that will begin on March 15, 2021; and

7 WHEREAS, When COVID-19 hit a year ago, businesses,
8 churches, and schools, to name a few, closed; it was
9 devastating to business owners, consumers, and families;
10 students, in particular, have been negatively affected in many
11 ways, both in and out of the classroom; very limited teaching
12 and learning took place during the 4th quarter of the
13 2019-2020 school year; in some areas, students have had no
14 access to computers or the internet; consequently, these
15 students have been learning very little and, in some cases,
16 nothing; and

17 WHEREAS, At this point in the 2020-2021 school year, some
18 districts have offered hybrid learning; some are fully
19 in-person; some are fully remote; some are a combination; even
20 a year after the onset of COVID-19 restrictions, school
21 districts everywhere are still trying to determine the safest
22 method for teaching their students; and

1 WHEREAS, There are several concerns if standardized
2 testing proceeds during this school year, including the
3 validity of the test results and the fairness of test scores to
4 mark the students' success and to determine teachers'
5 accountability; we have seen no valid reason for testing under
6 these circumstances,; and

7 WHEREAS, Some other testing options have been discussed;
8 one is for students to be tested on Saturdays; another is for
9 testing to take place in the month of June; a third option is
10 for students to be tested in the fall of 2021 as well as in the
11 spring of 2022; two standardized testing sessions in one
12 school year for students who may be returning to a "normal"
13 school year would be overwhelming; again, none of these
14 accommodations truly accommodate the children; and

15 WHEREAS, Parents have told us that their children are
16 struggling just to complete homework that, in some cases, is
17 extremely excessive; on top of learning the lessons being
18 taught and then doing homework, they are experiencing Zoom
19 fatigue due to the dependence of using the video platform to
20 learn; parents and teachers alike are very distressed by the
21 decision to still test; and

22 WHEREAS, Students across the United States are being
23 taught in the most widely diverse methods that we adults have

1 ever known; they are already traumatized by all of the
2 above-mentioned situations; they are experiencing enough
3 stress by what is going on in our world; they do not need the
4 stress of test taking for which many have not had appropriate
5 exposure to the content being tested; although their education
6 has been dramatically changed, the tests have not, nor is
7 there time to rewrite and standardize them; therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
9 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
10 we request the U.S. Department of Education exempt Illinois
11 schools from taking the state mandated standardized tests in
12 the spring of 2021; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
14 delivered to the U.S. Department of Education.