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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, Illinois employers report the increasing need for secondary and postsecondary graduates with essential and technical employability skills necessary to succeed in high-demand and growing occupational areas; and

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WHEREAS, Regional college and career readiness systems develop essential and technical employability skills that are transferable to numerous careers and allow students to explore career options and find a pathway while still in the K-12 system; and

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WHEREAS, Access to high-quality systems and programming varies extensively across Illinois; and

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WHEREAS, Aligning support from State agencies, school districts, postsecondary education providers, employers, and other public and private organizations will lead to the development and implementation of a robust and coordinated college and career readiness system in Illinois; and

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WHEREAS, Career and Technical Education (CTE) links academic learning directly to workplace competencies through hands-on learning, career exploration, on-site instruction, and credentialing to give students a jump-start on their

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1 postsecondary education or meaningful career; and

2 WHEREAS, The Illinois General Assembly enacted the
3 Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness Act in 2016 to launch
4 four evidence-based strategies to prepare more students for
5 meaningful career opportunities by supporting postsecondary
6 and career planning, promoting and incentivizing
7 competency-based learning programs, reducing remedial
8 education rates, increasing alignment between K-12 and
9 postsecondary education systems, and implementing college and
10 career pathway systems; and

11 WHEREAS, The Dual Credit Quality Act and Education and
12 Workforce Equity Act were built from existing State policy to
13 emphasize strategic opportunities for alignment between
14 secondary, postsecondary, and workforce education that
15 promotes equitable access and accelerates student progression
16 through robust college and career pathway coursework and
17 systems; and

18 WHEREAS, The Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) has
19 published Perkins Model Programs of Study to define strategies
20 for systems alignment and student acceleration in accordance
21 with the principles of the State Perkins Plan, the State
22 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Plan, the
23 Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness Act, the Dual Credit

1 Quality Act, the Education and Workforce Equity Act, and other
2 State policies; and

3 WHEREAS, According to the Integrated Public Use Microdata
4 Series (IPUMS USA) data using 2019 American Community Survey
5 estimates, significant gaps in postsecondary attainment for
6 Illinois adults age 25+ persist across demographic groups,
7 with 29.4% of Black adults and 19.7% of Latinx adults
8 possessing an associate degree or higher compared to 46.6% of
9 their white peers; the Lumina Foundation estimates that an
10 additional 8.2% of Illinois adults have a sub-associate
11 postsecondary degree or credential, resulting in an overall
12 attainment rate of 55.2%; and

13 WHEREAS, Individuals with a postsecondary credential,
14 whether it is a college degree or technical certificate, are
15 more likely to be employed and on average can earn 62% more
16 than peers with a high school diploma; and

17 WHEREAS, The State has demonstrated a commitment to
18 addressing equity gaps in access and attainment through the
19 State Perkins Plan, Higher Education Strategic Plan, Every
20 Student Succeeds Act State Plan, and the Education and
21 Workforce Equity Act, which reiterates the charge to the P-20
22 Council to update the State's postsecondary attainment goals
23 to include equity-focused targets aimed at closing gaps in

1 postsecondary attainment; and

2 WHEREAS, The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) has
3 initiated an external evaluation of the State's Education for
4 Employment (EFE) CTE funding system to assess its efficiency
5 and efficacy; and

6 WHEREAS, The State's education and workforce agencies have
7 demonstrated a commitment to seeking opportunities for greater
8 alignment across governance and funding structures that will
9 incentivize greater alignment and integration of secondary and
10 postsecondary education; and

11 WHEREAS, Emerging State activities, policies, and plans
12 present a valuable chance for Illinois to consider how college
13 and career readiness systems and structures can incentivize
14 greater alignment and enhance student experiences in equitably
15 accessing and progressing along robust college and career
16 pathways; therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
18 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
19 the P-20 Council is urged to convene a geographically
20 representative College and Career Readiness (CCR) Funding and
21 Governance Task Force and produce a report addressing:

22 (1) Local and national best practices pertaining to

1 regional college and career readiness system governance
2 and funding, including the roles of regional partners
3 including secondary districts, community colleges, and
4 employers;

5 (2) Recommendations for a regional college and career
6 readiness governance model inclusive of Career and
7 Technical Education, the Postsecondary and Workforce
8 Readiness Act, the Dual Credit Quality Act, and the
9 Education and Workforce Equity Act and addressing the
10 State's equity-based postsecondary attainment targets;

11 (3) Recommendations to ensure the State's Career and
12 Technical Education fund disbursement methodology supports
13 the State's CTE vision as outlined in the State's Perkins
14 V plan to "empower and support all students to achieve
15 their life and career goals through an aligned, equitable,
16 and high-quality career pathway system"; and

17 (4) Recommendations to clarify and affirm the role of
18 regional college and career readiness systems in
19 addressing State goals as outlined in State agency plans,
20 including the State Perkins Plan, the Every Student
21 Succeeds Act (ESSA) State Plan, the Higher Education
22 Strategic Plan, and any plan emerging from the P-20
23 Council's work to meet the requirements of HB2170; and be
24 it further

25 RESOLVED, That the CCR Funding and Governance Task Force

1 should be comprised of representatives from, at a minimum,
2 secondary education districts, community college, university,
3 and statewide professional teachers' association(s), statewide
4 school management association(s), EFE system leadership,
5 Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSOs), employers
6 and/or industry groups, local workforce boards, State
7 education and workforce agencies, local and national advocacy
8 and research organizations with relevant expertise; and be it
9 further

10 RESOLVED, That the CCR Funding and Governance Task Force
11 should meet at the call of the Illinois P-20 Council, which
12 should provide administrative and other support to the task
13 force through a committee focused on college and career
14 readiness; members of the task force should serve without
15 compensation; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That ISBE is urged to report to the P-20 Council
17 the findings of their external evaluation of the EFE system
18 upon completion for the P-20 Council's task force to consider
19 in addition to their own research; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That the P-20 Council is urged to present its
21 findings and recommendations for governance or funding
22 improvements necessary to provide equitable and high-quality
23 college and career readiness preparation across Illinois on or

1 before October 31, 2022 to the Illinois State Board of
2 Education, the Illinois Board of Higher Education, the
3 Illinois Community College Board, the Illinois Department of
4 Commerce and Employment Opportunity, the Illinois P-20
5 Council, the General Assembly, the Illinois Asian American
6 Legislative Caucus, the Illinois Legislative Black Caucus, the
7 Illinois Legislative Latino Caucus, and the Illinois Women's
8 Caucuses; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That the P-20 Council is urged to dissolve the
10 CCR Funding and Governance Task Force after it submits its
11 report.