



SR0107

LRB102 16120 LAW 21496 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Approximately half of Illinois high school
3 graduates enrolling as full-time freshmen in Illinois public
4 community colleges require remedial education; and

5 WHEREAS, Illinois employers report that recent high school
6 and postsecondary institutional graduates often lack the
7 critical skills necessary to succeed in high-demand and
8 growing occupational areas, and that they are unable to find
9 qualified workers to meet their industry's needs; and

10 WHEREAS, Student readiness for postsecondary education and
11 careers cannot be reduced to a single metric but must instead
12 be understood as a multifaceted set of knowledge, skills, and
13 abilities that allow students to successfully meet the
14 challenges of postsecondary education and career in order to
15 live healthy, productive lives; and

16 WHEREAS, Enabling high school students to engage in career
17 and postsecondary education development activities and
18 incentivizing achievement in career-oriented education,
19 particularly in high-demand industry sectors, promotes
20 postsecondary and career readiness and facilitates
21 better-informed postsecondary education decisions; and

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

7 WHEREAS, The Illinois Postsecondary and Workforce
8 Readiness Act establishes a voluntary system for school
9 districts to award college and career pathway endorsements on
10 high school diplomas; the endorsement demonstrates students'
11 readiness for college and careers, completion of instruction
12 and professional learning experiences in a selected career
13 interest area, and incentivizes career exploration and
14 development, particularly in high-demand career fields; and

15 WHEREAS, The Illinois Postsecondary and Workforce
16 Readiness Act takes a student-centered and competency-based
17 approach to create four strategies to help students prepare
18 for postsecondary and career opportunities, which include
19 offering a Postsecondary and Career Expectations framework
20 (PaCE), piloting competency-based high school graduation
21 requirements, supporting students to avoid remediation in
22 college through targeted math instruction during their senior
23 year, and creating a new system for school districts to award
24 college and career pathways endorsements on high school

1 diplomas; and

2 WHEREAS, The Postsecondary and Career Expectations
3 framework outlines what students should know and actions they
4 should take from middle school through 12th grade to select
5 the right postsecondary option, prepare for careers, and
6 access financial aid opportunities; and

7 WHEREAS, Illinois enacted the Postsecondary and Workforce
8 Readiness Act to deploy a number of strategies to prepare more
9 students for meaningful career opportunities by supporting
10 postsecondary and career planning, promoting and incentivizing
11 competency-based learning programs, reducing remedial
12 education rates, increasing alignment between K-12 and
13 postsecondary education systems, and implementing college and
14 career pathway systems; therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL
16 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we encourage high
17 schools across the State to participate in the Postsecondary
18 and Workforce Readiness Program to help address key barriers
19 to the successful transition of Illinois high school students
20 into college and careers.