



SR0981

LRB102 27228 LAW 38887 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The portion of Cahokia Heights formerly known as Centreville is a community in St. Clair County with a population of almost 5,000 residents; and

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WHEREAS, According to the latest census data, the population of this area is 93% African-American, and the average household income is \$32,595; and

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WHEREAS, Since the 1980s, pump stations designed to pump sewage away from homes and neighborhoods in Centreville have barely functioned, with moderate rainfall often leading to raw sewage flooding streets and homes; and

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WHEREAS, In 2009, the Illinois EPA ruled that the Harding Ditch, which drains the flood plain on which Centreville sits, contained hazardous levels of fecal coliform; and

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WHEREAS, Many residents of the Centreville community have requested that the State of Illinois and U.S. Government declare an environmental health crisis, as numerous residents suffer from health issues due to the unsanitary conditions; and

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WHEREAS, The situation in Centreville is an example of why

1 appropriate steps are needed to advance environmental justice
2 and eradicate systemic racism in public policy and all areas;
3 therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL
5 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we urge the U.S.
6 Environmental Protection Agency, the Illinois Emergency
7 Management Agency, the Illinois Department of Public Health,
8 the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, the St. Clair
9 County Emergency Management Agency, the St. Clair County
10 Public Health Department, the St. Clair County Public Works
11 Department, and all other local officials to continue to work
12 collaboratively to direct the necessary resources to the
13 community formerly known as Centreville to address this
14 pressing human rights issue in the State of Illinois; and be it
15 further

16 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
17 delivered to the aforementioned units of local and federal
18 government, the Office of the Governor, all members of the
19 General Assembly, and the St. Clair County Board.