



HJ0071

LRB103 40461 MST 72830 r

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, Research has shown that the continued use of Native American names, logos, and mascots in schools has a negative effect not only on Native American students but also on all students by undermining the educational experiences of members of all communities, especially those who have had little to no contact with indigenous peoples; and

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WHEREAS, Research also shows that the use of Native American names, logos, and mascots used in schools establishes an unwelcome and often hostile learning environment for Native American students and affirms negative images and stereotypes that are promoted in mainstream society; and

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WHEREAS, The use of Native American names, logos, and mascots can be defined as using any person, animal, or object to represent a school that names, refers to, represents, or is associated with Native Americans, including Native American cultures and specific Native American tribes, but not including names associated with the name of a local county, municipality, or school district; and

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WHEREAS, The American Psychological Association recommends the retirement of Native American mascots, a recommendation first made in 2005; and

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1 WHEREAS, A particular team name, Redskins, used by schools
2 in Illinois is defined in dictionaries as offensive, a racial
3 slur used as an insulting and contemptuous term for a Native
4 American; and

5 WHEREAS, The State of Illinois wants all children to have
6 a safe, healthy, and equitable learning experience in our
7 public education system, including Native American children;
8 therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
10 HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE
11 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that we urge the State Board of
12 Education to conduct a study on the number of schools, school
13 districts, and other public school associations across the
14 State that currently utilize Native American names, logos, and
15 mascots; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That we urge the State Board of Education,
17 through conversations with local schools and school districts,
18 to collect findings on what the cost would be for these
19 individual schools and districts to remove and change Native
20 American names, mascots, and logos; and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That we urge the State Board of Education to

1 include its findings in a written report to the General
2 Assembly no later than December 31, 2024; and be it further

3 RESOLVED, That we urge schools, school districts, and
4 other public school associations to consider and plan for
5 changing these harmful Native American names, mascots, and
6 logos; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That we urge the State Board of Education to use
8 all tools available to work towards the immediate end of the
9 practice of using racial slurs as team names in Illinois
10 schools.