



HR0289

LRB103 32380 LAW 61795 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Public schools are the heartbeat of our
3 communities and a pillar of our democracy; and

4 WHEREAS, Public schools need to be funded and supported in
5 order to foster equity and continue fostering joy, curiosity,
6 creativity, collaboration, and problem-solving skills so that
7 each child may reach their full potential; and

8 WHEREAS, Today, more time is spent on testing than on
9 teaching, and the overfocus on testing has resulted in
10 teaching to the test and the elimination of subjects such as
11 art and music; and

12 WHEREAS, A combination of federal, state, and local
13 testing has negatively impacted what is taught in our schools,
14 narrowing the curriculum to only those subjects that are
15 tested; and

16 WHEREAS, Standardized tests do not reliably measure
17 learning, particularly for Black and low-income students and
18 those with special needs, and are often used inappropriately
19 to make high-stakes decisions about grade retention,
20 graduation, teacher evaluations, and more; and

1 WHEREAS, States are currently required by the Every
2 Student Succeeds Act to administer statewide summative
3 assessments annually in grades three through eight; and

4 WHEREAS, The More Teaching Less Testing Act has been
5 introduced in Congress and, if passed, would promote ways to
6 improve assessment and accountability for the actual purpose
7 of increasing student learning opportunities; and

8 WHEREAS, The More Teaching Less Testing Act would allow
9 states the flexibility to administer summative assessments and
10 design assessment systems that support high quality teaching
11 and learning and eliminate the current federally mandated
12 testing schedule for summative assessments in math, reading
13 and the languages arts, and science, replacing it with other
14 options that include grade-span testing and representative
15 sampling; and

16 WHEREAS, The More Teaching Less Testing Act would
17 quadruple the Title I funding level to address the chronic
18 underfunding of public schools and would finally prioritize
19 public education funding in the federal budget; and

20 WHEREAS, The More Teaching Less Testing Act would prohibit
21 states from using federally mandated statewide assessments as
22 the sole or dominant factor for large-scale retention

1 policies, high school graduation decisions, teacher
2 evaluations, or school rating systems; therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
4 HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
5 we urge members of the Illinois Congressional delegation and
6 all members of the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate to
7 vote in favor of the More Teaching Less Testing Act; and be it
8 further

9 RESOLVED, That suitable copies be delivered to the
10 Illinois Congressional delegation.