



HR0723

LRB103 40401 ECR 72705 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The Congress of the United States of America has proposed budget cuts that would decrease funding to the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), which supports workforce development activities, adult education and literacy, U.S. employment services, vocational services for disabled workers, and numerous other programs that invest in our workforce; and

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WHEREAS, The WIOA has had a positive impact on the livelihoods of millions of Americans, having provided job training to 237,836 people nationwide in the midst of a global pandemic in program year 2020; and

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WHEREAS, Throughout Illinois, the program has grown substantially in the last several years, having seen the number of local workforce innovation area incumbent worker training projects greatly increase from 64 to 378, the number of businesses utilizing incumbent worker training increase from 62 to 278, and an increase in the number of incumbent workers able to receive training from 125 to 4,228; and

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WHEREAS, These efforts and others like it have resulted in a statewide unemployment rate of only 5.1%; and

1           WHEREAS, Last year, the One-stop Operator in Champaign  
2 County, a single location where all four core programs of the  
3 WIOA are collocated, helped 362 visitors with resume,  
4 interview, career fair, application, employment workshop, and  
5 job search advice; it also connected 227 visitors to services,  
6 including rent assistance, GED classes, printing, veterans'  
7 services, and youth services; and

8           WHEREAS, Among those visitors, the East Central Illinois  
9 Workforce Board provided career coaching and supportive  
10 services to 262 low-income or skill-deficient adults as well  
11 as 163 youth with barriers to employment; and

12           WHEREAS, The WIOA gives preference to veterans, low-income  
13 individuals, individuals with disabilities, unhoused  
14 individuals, youth who have been in the foster care system,  
15 eligible migrants and seasonal farmworkers, single parents,  
16 and long-term unemployed individuals; and

17           WHEREAS, Unfortunately, the East Central Illinois  
18 Workforce Board was forced to turn away over 600 adults last  
19 year who wanted to receive job training but who could not be  
20 provided with services due to funding limitations; and

21           WHEREAS, Budget cuts like the ones proposed recently would  
22 make it even more difficult for organizations enacting the

1 provisions of the WIOA to render high-demand services to  
2 underserved and underutilized members of the community;  
3 therefore, be it

4       RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
5 HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
6 we urge the Congress of the United States to enact legislation  
7 that maintains funding for the Workforce Innovation and  
8 Opportunity Act (WIOA), and for President Joe Biden to sign  
9 that legislation into law; and be it further

10       RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be  
11 delivered to the President of the United States, Joe Biden,  
12 the Vice President of the United States, Kamala Harris, and  
13 all members of the Illinois Congressional Delegation.