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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The demands of the 21st century require a new approach to education to fully prepare our state's youth for college, careers, and citizenship; a whole child approach to education addresses students' comprehensive needs through the shared responsibility of students, families, schools, and communities; the goal of such an approach is to ensure that each child is challenged, supported, healthy, safe, and engaged; and

- 10 WHEREAS, The children of Illinois are our future and will 11 provide the leadership, creativity, and productivity to 12 sustain and strengthen the quality of life in our state; and
- 13 WHEREAS, The State of Illinois has the responsibility to
 14 ensure that our children have every possible opportunity for a
 15 quality education and future success; and
- 16 WHEREAS, Each student in Illinois deserves to be
 17 challenged academically and prepared for college, meaningful
 18 employment in our global economy, and lifelong success; and
- 19 WHEREAS, Each student in Illinois deserves to be supported 20 by qualified, caring adults and to receive access to 21 personalized learning; and

- 1 WHEREAS, Each student in Illinois deserves to learn about
- 2 and practice a healthy lifestyle; and
- 3 WHEREAS, Each student in Illinois deserves to learn in an
- 4 environment that is physically and emotionally safe; and
- 5 WHEREAS, Each student in Illinois deserves to be actively
- 6 engaged in learning and connected to the school and broader
- 7 community; and
- 8 WHEREAS, The consequences of not ensuring that our young
- 9 people are challenged, supported, healthy, safe, and engaged
- 10 are clear; and
- 11 WHEREAS, The current high school graduation rate is 87%;
- 12 and
- 13 WHEREAS, SAT Math scores for 11th graders who achieve
- "meets or exceeds" are at only 29%; and
- 15 WHEREAS, SAT English/Language Arts scores for 11th graders
- who achieve "meets or exceeds" are at only 30%; and
- 17 WHEREAS, In science, only 51% of all students in all
- 18 grades are testing at the proficient or exemplary level; and

- 1 WHEREAS, Only 64% of high school seniors enroll in a
- college program within 12 months of graduation; therefore, be
- 3 it
- 4 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL
- 5 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we declare March of
- 6 2023 as Illinois Whole Child Month to recognize the value of
- 7 assuring that each student is challenged, supported, healthy,
- 8 safe, and engaged; and be it further
- 9 RESOLVED, That we urge parents, educators, and community
- 10 members to support a whole child approach to education for
- 11 each student; and be it further
- 12 RESOLVED, That we urge every school in Illinois to
- 13 celebrate Whole Child Month by adopting at least one of the
- 14 whole child tenets to promote and encourage throughout the
- month; and be it further
- 16 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
- 17 presented to the Illinois Association for Supervision and
- 18 Curriculum Development as a symbol of our respect and esteem.