



SR0207

LRB103 31356 LAW 58931 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The Illinois High School Association (IHSA) has
officially supported boys and girls gymnastics for 70 and 50
years respectively; and

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WHEREAS, Illinois gymnastics programs and gymnasts have
enjoyed working cooperatively with the IHSA in order to
provide a meaningful and healthy alternative to more
traditional sports, following IHSA's core principle that each
and every student is important; and

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WHEREAS, Local school districts, parents, teachers,
coaches, and athletes are supportive of gymnastics in Illinois
and have not initiated any effort with the IHSA to remove it as
an official sport in Illinois; and

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WHEREAS, Gymnastics is a foundational sport, providing an
opportunity for its athletes to gain coordination,
self-control, strength training, perseverance, self-esteem,
and confidence; the sport additionally teaches goal setting
and performing both as an individual and as a team; and

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WHEREAS, Like any other high school sport, gymnastics
permits athletes the chance to compete while representing
their schools, giving them a sense of pride and purpose

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1 outside of academics; and

2 WHEREAS, Competing in gymnastics during high school
3 additionally allows athletes further time to develop as
4 gymnasts, which leads to higher rates of success should they
5 pursue gymnastics in college or beyond, and is considered
6 vital in order to join and compete for Team USA Gymnastics; and

7 WHEREAS, While female gymnasts often reach the pinnacle of
8 their abilities in gymnastics while still in school,
9 successful male gymnasts require extreme upper body strength
10 that does not develop until they are older, thereby making it
11 especially important that they have the continued option to
12 pursue gymnastics as a high school sport; and

13 WHEREAS, Illinois high school gymnastics programs have
14 yielded Olympic Gold Medal winners, NCAA National
15 Championships, and a diversity of citizens who continue to
16 contribute to the well-being of our State; and

17 WHEREAS, Official support of gymnastics by the IHSA does
18 not prevent a school from discontinuing or adding the sport to
19 its student athlete programs, but eliminating it as an
20 official IHSA sport would have a negative impact on students
21 and coaches; therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL
2 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we congratulate the
3 Illinois High School Association and Illinois student
4 gymnasts, coaches, and parents on the achievements of boys and
5 girls gymnastics for the past 70 and 50 years respectively;
6 and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That we congratulate the IHSA for its continued
8 official support of boys and girls gymnastics in the State of
9 Illinois; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
11 presented to the IHSA as a symbol of our respect and esteem.