



SR0984

LRB103 40520 LAW 73012 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, Teenagers represent a substantive segment of the eligible voting populace, and their engagement in the democratic process is indispensable for the sustainability and vibrancy of our nation's democracy; and

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WHEREAS, In the State of Illinois, through the enactment of Public Act 98-51 in 2013, 17-year-olds were awarded the right to register and vote in primary elections, contingent upon their turning 18 by the general election; and

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WHEREAS, Clearly recognizing the potential of teen voters to shape the future of our State, Governor JB Pritzker made a noteworthy stride toward youth empowerment through the enactment of Public Act 103-467 in 2023, which allowed 16-year-olds to pre-register to vote; and

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WHEREAS, In 2024, Letina Brady Pettis, a champion of youth empowerment who saw that teenagers deserved a platform to shape the trajectory of our society, founded Get Out the Vote (GOTV) 4 Teens, a coalition dedicated to fortifying civic education and fostering active voter registration among teenagers aged 16 to 17; and

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WHEREAS, GOTV 4 Teens also advocates for observing Teens

1 Voter Registration Day, a crucial initiative to increase
2 awareness of and participation in the electoral process; and

3 WHEREAS, Observing Teens Voter Registration Day will
4 catalyze a sense of civic duty and responsibility among young
5 individuals, leading to the formation of a generation of
6 informed and engaged citizens committed to shaping a more
7 equitable and just society who will, in turn, fortify the
8 resilience and adaptability of our democratic institutions;
9 therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL
11 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we declare September
12 10, 2024 as Teens Voter Registration Day in the State of
13 Illinois; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That we urge all citizens, educators, and
15 community leaders to support and encourage the civic
16 engagement of our State's youth in order to foster a
17 generation of informed and empowered voters; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
19 presented to Letina Brady Pettis as a symbol of our respect and
20 esteem.