

## 1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The Illinois General Assembly is committed to  
3 ensuring the safety of school children both at school and  
4 during transportation to and from school; and

5 WHEREAS, School bus drivers are a critical link to  
6 ensuring the safety of school children who ride buses and  
7 other forms of school transportation; and

8 WHEREAS, School bus drivers undergo a great deal of  
9 training on driving school buses but are not required to be  
10 certified in first aid or CPR/AED; and

11 WHEREAS, The Illinois Vehicle Code requires school buses  
12 to be equipped with first aid kits but does not require  
13 school bus drivers to be certified in first aid proficiency;  
14 and

15 WHEREAS, The National Highway Traffic Safety  
16 Administration estimates between 8,500 and 12,000 children  
17 are injured every year in school bus accidents; and

18 WHEREAS, Emergency response can be significantly delayed  
19 in rural areas where school bus accidents or crashes may  
20 occur; and

21 WHEREAS, The Illinois Department of Transportation  
22 reported 6 fatalities and 832 injuries from school bus  
23 crashes in 2000, including 205 school-aged passengers; and

24 WHEREAS, Having a bus driver trained in first aid and  
25 CPR/AED could make the difference between life and death of  
26 school children in a school bus crash or other related school  
27 bus accident; and

28 WHEREAS, The American Red Cross and American Heart  
29 Association provide nationally-recognized training programs  
30 in first aid and CPR/AED; and

1           WHEREAS, The Illinois General Assembly believes that  
2 first aid and CPR/AED training for school bus drivers is an  
3 important goal to achieve; therefore, be it

4           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF  
5 ILLINOIS, THE SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that the School Bus  
6 Driver Training Task Force is hereby created to study the  
7 factors necessary to implement a first aid and CPR/AED  
8 requirement for school bus drivers regulated by the Secretary  
9 of State; and be it further

10          RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall include representatives  
11 from these agencies and organizations:

- 12           (1) the Secretary of State (or his designee),
- 13           (2) the American Red Cross,
- 14           (3) the American Heart Association,
- 15           (4) the Illinois State Board of Education,
- 16           (5) the Illinois Association of School Boards,
- 17           (6) the Service Employees International Union,
- 18           (7) the Illinois Education Association,
- 19           (8) the Illinois Association of Pupil Transportation, and
- 20           (9) the Illinois School Transportation Association; and
- 21 be it further

22          RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall provide a written  
23 report and recommendations to the Illinois General Assembly  
24 by December 31, 2003.