



1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, As the seat of State government, Springfield is  
3 uniquely situated to be the site of a law school focused on  
4 government service and law enforcement; and

5 WHEREAS, The capital city offers a setting that is rich in  
6 both academic resources and practical training for an  
7 institution that would meet a current need and enhance future  
8 opportunities in the realm of government scholarship and  
9 service; and

10 WHEREAS, Illinois boasts a proud tradition of quality legal  
11 education, but the growing complexity of government's role in  
12 society presents challenges that currently are not adequately  
13 addressed by the State's institutions of higher learning; and

14 WHEREAS, The issues of public service increasingly call for  
15 lawyers skilled in forming, administering, enforcing, and  
16 interpreting the law on behalf of a citizenry that demands and  
17 deserves excellence from its civic servants and institutions;  
18 and

19 WHEREAS, In Springfield, a law school would have ready  
20 access to top-notch libraries and a pool of professional talent  
21 from the Illinois Supreme Court, the Illinois Appellate Court,  
22 the Illinois Circuit Court, the Federal Courts, the State  
23 Library, the General Assembly, State agencies, the University  
24 of Illinois at Springfield, and the Sangamon County bar; and

25 WHEREAS, A law school curriculum that rigorously tackles  
26 the broad range of legal questions facing communities  
27 throughout the State would ensure a cadre of alumni superbly  
28 equipped to confront Illinois' vital topics in the 21st century  
29 and beyond; therefore, be it

1           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
2           NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE  
3           SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that a task force is created to study  
4           the feasibility of establishing a law school in Springfield  
5           with a curriculum oriented towards government service and law  
6           enforcement and serving students living and working in central  
7           Illinois; and be it further

8           RESOLVED, That the task force shall consist of 7 members  
9           appointed as follows: one member appointed by the Speaker of  
10          the House; one member appointed by the House Minority Leader;  
11          one member appointed by the President of the Senate; one member  
12          appointed by the Senate Minority Leader; one member appointed  
13          by the Sangamon County Bar Association; one member appointed by  
14          the Illinois Supreme Court; and one member appointed by the  
15          Mayor of the City of Springfield; and that the task force shall  
16          select a chairperson from among its members, and that the task  
17          force shall meet at the call of the chairperson; and be it  
18          further

19          RESOLVED, That the task force shall consult and coordinate  
20          with the Illinois Board of Higher Education in conducting its  
21          feasibility study; and be it further

22          RESOLVED, That the task force shall submit a report of its  
23          study, its conclusions, and its recommendations to the General  
24          Assembly as expeditiously as possible.