



1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Recent ethics scandals have uncovered the flow of  
3 special interest money into the hands of elected officials and  
4 have included the arrest of current and former lawmakers on  
5 charges of racketeering and mail fraud; and

6 WHEREAS, American voters think our political system is  
7 broken due to excessive influence of campaign contributors; 70%  
8 of Americans believe that the political system cannot respond  
9 to the country's real needs because of the influence of special  
10 interests over our lawmakers; and

11 WHEREAS, Americans are increasingly unwilling to  
12 participate in the political process because they believe large  
13 campaign contributions are the only way to influence our  
14 political leaders; and

15 WHEREAS, Candidates for elective office in Illinois are  
16 forced to raise large sums of money in order to run effective  
17 campaigns; time spent raising contributions could more  
18 effectively be spent on serving constituents; and

19 WHEREAS, Improving the restructuring of Illinois campaign  
20 finance laws will open opportunities for more citizen  
21 involvement and foster more dialogue among elected officials  
22 and their challengers on various political issues; it will  
23 enable voters to have more trust in the process and their  
24 representatives; and

25 WHEREAS, The State of Illinois must take action to restore  
26 public confidence by adopting stricter ethics rules; Illinois  
27 must eliminate campaign finance excesses by enacting  
28 comprehensive campaign finance laws that establish public  
29 financing of State campaigns and establish campaign  
30 contribution limits; 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 there is created a Campaign  
4 Finance Reform Task Force consisting of 4 Representatives,  
5 appointed 2 each by the Speaker and Minority Leader of the  
6 House of Representatives, and 4 Senators, appointed 2 each by  
7 the President and Minority Leader of the Senate; and be it  
8 further

9           RESOLVED, That the Campaign Finance Reform Task Force also  
10 may include 2 members of the general public appointed by the  
11 Governor who represent campaign finance reform organizations,  
12 and the chairperson of the Task Force may be designated by the  
13 Governor from among its members; and be it further

14           RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall study the newly enacted  
15 campaign reform laws in other states, as well as the issues and  
16 problems associated with excessive moneys that are being raised  
17 and spent by candidates for elective office in the State of  
18 Illinois, and shall report its findings and recommendations to  
19 the General Assembly on or before December 31, 2006.