



HR1353

LRB095 21504 NHT 51178 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, This State is committed to providing its children  
3 and youth the educational opportunities they need to succeed  
4 academically and grow up to be productive Illinois citizens;  
5 and

6           WHEREAS, Illinois schools are facing incredible and ever  
7 increasing demands on their limited financial resources to  
8 address the academic, emotional, and social needs of their  
9 students; and

10           WHEREAS, Hundreds of schools in rural, suburban, and urban  
11 Illinois communities have started to engage in dialogue with  
12 their community stakeholders to identify and engage community  
13 and other resources to meet the growing needs of Illinois  
14 students and the schools they attend; and

15           WHEREAS, Community engagement, together with school  
16 efforts, promotes a school climate that is safe, supportive,  
17 and respectful and connects students to a broader learning  
18 community; and

19           WHEREAS, Greater student success, stronger families, and  
20 healthier communities are achieved when public schools knit  
21 together inventive and enduring relationships among educators,

1 families, volunteers, and community partners; and

2 WHEREAS, Resources and benefits flow to both the school and  
3 the community when community partners are providing on-site  
4 support and opportunities for students, their families, and  
5 their neighbors; and

6 WHEREAS, Available research suggests that a community  
7 engaged with the local school plays a powerful role in  
8 community building; therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
10 NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
11 the State Superintendent of Education shall appoint a task  
12 force on community partnerships to recommend strategic steps to  
13 establish effective community partnerships with local schools  
14 and to accomplish the following outcomes: (i) to leverage  
15 existing local resources in support of children in attaining  
16 education, (ii) to improve social and physical health and safe  
17 after-school opportunities, (iii) to build sustainable  
18 partnerships between local community stakeholders and schools,  
19 and (iv) to develop knowledge and understanding among partners  
20 and across disciplines to better understand each other's  
21 expertise, resources, and constraints; and be it further

22 RESOLVED, That the task force shall include

1 representatives from a statewide organization representing  
2 community engagement in schools, community-based health and  
3 social service agencies, family support groups, institutions  
4 of higher education, youth development organizations, youth  
5 services agencies, local governmental units, community groups,  
6 local business leaders, parents, local school staff and  
7 administrators, the State Board of Education, and other  
8 appropriate State agencies, all working around the common goal  
9 of creating necessary conditions for all children to learn at  
10 their best; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That the task force shall meet initially at the  
12 call of the State Superintendent of Education and shall select  
13 two co-chairpersons from among its members at its first  
14 meeting; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That the task force shall file a report of its  
16 findings and recommendations with the General Assembly, the  
17 Governor, and the State Board of Education before the end of  
18 the 95th General Assembly, and that upon filing its report the  
19 task force is dissolved; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be  
21 delivered to the State Superintendent of Education, the  
22 chairperson of the State Board of Education, and the Governor.