



HR1552

LRB095 22672 GRL 53080 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Record-breaking rainfall from September 12, 2008
3 to September 14, 2008 caused widespread property damage to
4 homeowners and owners of commercial and industrial property
5 throughout Illinois, including the greater Chicago area; and

6 WHEREAS, Current federal law requires the State of
7 Illinois' designated coordinator of emergency support
8 services, the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA), to
9 complete a preliminary damage assessment before an application
10 can be made to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
11 to have affected Illinois counties declared federal disaster
12 areas; and

13 WHEREAS, The declaration by FEMA that an affected area is a
14 federal disaster area is a necessary triggering event that must
15 take place if the individuals and businesses that have suffered
16 flooding damage are to be eligible for federal disaster
17 assistance; and

18 WHEREAS, The preliminary damage assessment has been
19 completed by the Illinois Emergency Management Agency and a
20 letter was sent by Governor Rod Blagojevich relaying the
21 findings of that assessment and asking the President of the
22 United States to declare the damaged counties as federal

1 disaster areas on September 24, 2008; and

2 WHEREAS, As damage repairs continue at the expense of those
3 persons affected by loss, it becomes more difficult for
4 potential federal aid to "make whole" those individuals who
5 have suffered a loss; therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
7 NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
8 urge the President of the United States to declare the affected
9 Illinois counties as federal disaster areas; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
11 presented to the President of the United States.