



HJ0006 Engrossed

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1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 6

2 WHEREAS, Physical activity advances the social and  
3 physical development of children; and

4 WHEREAS, Children are expected to engage in moderate to  
5 vigorous physical activity at least 60 minutes a day; and

6 WHEREAS, More than 14% of school-age children in Illinois  
7 are overweight; and

8 WHEREAS, Obesity rates vary widely based on environmental  
9 conditions and location; and

10 WHEREAS, Environment and policy changes can increase  
11 physical activity and decrease obesity rates; and

12 WHEREAS, Obesity and lack of physical activity are risk  
13 factors for cardiovascular disease, diabetes, hypertension and  
14 certain cancers; and

15 WHEREAS, In 1969, the number of children in the U.S. who  
16 walked or biked to school was 42% and in 2001, the number of  
17 children who walked or biked to school was 16%; and

18 WHEREAS, In FY 1999, 113,271 elementary students were

1 transported less than 1.5 miles to/from home to school; and

2 WHEREAS, In FY 2009, 159,591 elementary students were  
3 transported less than 1.5 miles to/from home to school; and

4 WHEREAS, That translates to a 41% increase in the number of  
5 students transported less than 1.5 miles to/from home to school  
6 in one decade; and

7 WHEREAS, The number of students transported at least 1.5  
8 miles to/from home to school increased only 8% in the same time  
9 period; and

10 WHEREAS, The average cost to transport a single child to  
11 and from school for one school year is more than \$440; and

12 WHEREAS, More than 1.1 million elementary and high school  
13 students are transported each day by bus to and from public  
14 schools in Illinois; and

15 WHEREAS, More than \$850 million is spent annually on school  
16 transportation programs in Illinois; and

17 WHEREAS, School transportation costs have increased more  
18 than 300 percent in the last 15 years; therefore, be it

1           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
2           NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE  
3           SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that there is created the School  
4           Transportation Task Force, to be appointed as follows:

5           (1) Two members appointed by the Speaker of the House  
6           of Representatives; and

7           (2) Two members appointed by the Minority Leader of the  
8           House of Representatives; and

9           (3) Two members appointed by the President of the  
10          Senate; and

11          (4) Two members appointed by the Minority Leader of the  
12          Senate; and

13          (5) Two members representing non-profit community  
14          based transportation organizations appointed by the  
15          Governor; and

16          (6) One member representing school transportation  
17          providers appointed by the Governor; and

18          (7) One member representing school boards appointed by  
19          the Governor; and

20          (8) One member representing school administrators  
21          appointed by the Governor; and be it further

22          RESOLVED, That the State Superintendent of Education and  
23          the Secretary of the Department of Transportation, or their  
24          designees, may at their discretion serve on the Task Force ex  
25          officio; and be it further

1           RESOLVED, That all appointments shall be made no later than  
2   45 days following adoption of this resolution; and be it  
3   further

4           RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall study the possibility  
5   of enacting legislation making changes to current  
6   transportation programs offered by the Illinois State Board of  
7   Education; and be it further

8           RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall choose its chair and  
9   other officers and meet at the call of the chair; and be it  
10   further

11          RESOLVED, That the members of the Task Force shall serve  
12   without compensation but shall be reimbursed for their  
13   reasonable and necessary expenses from funds appropriated for  
14   that purpose; and be it further

15          RESOLVED, That the Office of the Governor shall provide  
16   administrative support to the Task Force to the extent of its  
17   abilities; and be it further

18          RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall report its findings and  
19   recommendations to the Governor and General Assembly on or  
20   before June 30, 2010; and be it further

1           RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be presented to  
2 the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President of  
3 the Senate, the Minority Leader of the House of  
4 Representatives, the Minority Leader of the Senate, the  
5 Governor, the Secretary of the Department of Transportation,  
6 and the State Superintendent of Education.