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LRB096 12239 NHT 24923 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The Illinois Community College Sustainability Network (ICCSN), an existing structure partnering with the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, is an innovative and immediate avenue to create green-collar jobs; and

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WHEREAS, The ICCSN is a tested and trusted resource and provides the most efficient means to rapidly address the new energy economy's need for a green-jobs workforce and for the widespread deployment of energy conservation to the community level; and

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WHEREAS, With appropriate funding, the current ICCSN is well positioned to expand to serve all 48 public community colleges in this State, and the whole system is committed to preparing a green-collar workforce with both the academic and technical skills needed to stimulate growth in the new energy economy; and

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WHEREAS, This State's public community colleges have planned construction projects to convert campus energy systems to more efficient and clean energy sources; it is estimated that 50,000 direct and indirect green-collar jobs could be created by installing geothermal, wind, and solar technologies

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1 on community college campuses across this State; and

2 WHEREAS, The ICCSN has requested a total of \$648,600,000
3 through the federal government's economic recovery initiative
4 in order to do the following:

5 (1) rapidly accelerate training and development of the
6 green-collar workforce by expanding the ICCSN; and

7 (2) stimulate the creation of green-collar jobs
8 through community college renewable energy and energy
9 conservation projects that are bid ready and that would
10 train green-collar workers while reducing the carbon usage
11 and energy cost of community college facilities; and

12 WHEREAS, Each project will serve multiple goals related to
13 developing the green-collar workforce; the projects will
14 create green-job skills, decrease campus energy consumption by
15 30% to 50%, provide hands-on experience for renewable energy
16 technician training, serve as demonstration sites for
17 business, industry, and homeowners, and be shovel-ready
18 immediately or within 180 days; and

19 WHEREAS, Accountability for outcomes will occur through
20 independent measuring and verification for carbon reduction
21 strategies; therefore, be it

22 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL

1 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we urge the U.S.
2 Congress to fund the Illinois Community College Sustainability
3 Network's request for \$648,600,000 from the federal government
4 for the training and development of a green-collar workforce
5 and the creation of green-collar jobs through community college
6 renewable energy and energy conservation projects; and be it
7 further

8 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
9 delivered to the President pro tempore of the U.S. Senate, the
10 Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, and each member
11 of the Illinois congressional delegation.