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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The manufacturing sector is a backbone of the Illinois economy and employs more than 620,000 Illinois workers directly, while contributing the single largest share (13 percent) of the State's Gross Domestic Product; and

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WHEREAS, Illinois manufacturers have played a major role in nearly every historic event, from the advent of the assembly line to the Industrial Revolution; and

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WHEREAS, Illinois' community college system has 48 community colleges, serving nearly one million people across the State with a comprehensive mission; and

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WHEREAS, Community colleges serve 64 percent of people receiving a post-secondary education, while emphasizing open enrollment and serve individuals with all types of backgrounds and skills; and

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WHEREAS, Manufacturers and community colleges work together on a regular basis to ensure that Illinois residents have the necessary skills and training to compete in today's global economy; and

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WHEREAS, It is imperative to provide adequate job training

1 funding for manufacturing curricula and workforce development  
2 programs like the Manufacturing Skills Standard Council and  
3 other training programs to help unemployed workers, current  
4 employees, and students; and

5 WHEREAS, It is essential that job training programs be  
6 provided to community colleges in all areas of the State,  
7 including those in areas that have been harmed by the economic  
8 downturn; therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL  
10 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we strongly urge  
11 Governor Pat Quinn to support the provision of \$10 million in  
12 funding for community colleges to invest in manufacturing  
13 workforce development and job training so that employers can be  
14 assured of an adequate supply of qualified workers and Illinois  
15 residents can be prepared for good paying jobs in today's high  
16 performance manufacturing sector; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
18 presented to Governor Pat Quinn.