



HR0609

LRB097 14568 AJO 59591 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The people of Illinois are suffering from an  
3 ongoing economic crisis that threatens their health, wealth,  
4 and security; and

5           WHEREAS, Occupy movements in Illinois are supported by  
6 people of all trades and occupations, from school teachers to  
7 military veterans, who are stirred to protest economic  
8 injustice by the examples of the Occupy Wall Street movement in  
9 New York City and the numerous other Occupy protests across the  
10 country; and

11           WHEREAS, In Illinois, the unemployment rate is 10%  
12 (numbering more than 660,000 people), the poverty rate is more  
13 than 14% (1.8 million people), and the rate of people living in  
14 extreme poverty (income less than \$11,000 for a family of four)  
15 is nearly 7% (680,000 people); and

16           WHEREAS, The average after-tax household income of the top  
17 1% of the United States population grew by 275% between 1979  
18 and 2007, and the average after-tax household income of the  
19 lowest 20% of the United States population grew by just 18% in  
20 that same period; and

21           WHEREAS, The top 1% of income earners control 40% of the

1 wealth in the United States (a disparity greater than in Marie  
2 Antoinette's France before the Revolution of 1789); and

3 WHEREAS, The foreclosure rate in Illinois last month was  
4 the ninth worst in the country (1 of every 463 units), the rate  
5 in Cook County was even worse (1 of 357 units), and nearly 45%  
6 of the mortgage loans on Chicago homes are "underwater", that  
7 is, the amount of the home mortgage loan exceeds the value of  
8 the home; and

9 WHEREAS, The cost of the foreclosure crisis to Illinois  
10 taxpayers in 2012 is expected to reach \$12 billion, blighting  
11 whole communities with decreased police and fire protection,  
12 higher crime rates, less access to health care, poorer schools,  
13 deteriorated infrastructure, diminished recreation services,  
14 reduced library services, and park closures or reduced park  
15 hours; and

16 WHEREAS, People of all ages (from young adults to seniors)  
17 and backgrounds, individuals from all Chicago neighborhoods  
18 (north, south, and west), and persons who live in the suburbs,  
19 downstate cities, and rural areas are lawfully protesting the  
20 failures of Wall Street, the subsequent economic crisis, and  
21 the failure to address the needs of 99% of the population;  
22 therefore, be it

1           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
2           NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
3           we recognize the injuries suffered by the people of Illinois as  
4           a result of these economic injustices and we stand in support  
5           of the continued peaceful exercise of First Amendment rights by  
6           Occupy protestors.