



HR0610

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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; and

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

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

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

21 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
22 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that

1 we recognize the hardships experienced by the people of
2 Illinois as a result of these economic injustices and we stand
3 in support of the continued peaceful exercise of First
4 Amendment rights by Occupy protestors.