



HR1032

LRB097 20930 GRL 69306 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives recognize their responsibility to promote,
4 protect, and preserve the safety and welfare of the citizens of
5 the State of Illinois; and

6 WHEREAS, The members of this body also recognize that
7 criminal street gangs and gang-related activities promote
8 crime and jeopardize the health, safety, and welfare of the
9 citizens of Illinois; and

10 WHEREAS, The City of Chicago has experienced a recent
11 increase in criminal street gang activity; over the weekend of
12 March 17-18, 2012, 46 people were shot in the City of Chicago,
13 with 9 fatalities as a result of criminal street gang violence;
14 one of the victims, a 6-year-old girl, was caught in the
15 crossfire of a gang shooting as she played on the sidewalk in
16 front of her home; for the first 3 months of 2012, gang-related
17 murders in Chicago rose 60%, compared to the same time period
18 last year; and

19 WHEREAS, The gang problem in Illinois extends beyond the
20 City of Chicago; outside the metropolitan area, gangs engage in
21 violence, burglaries, and drug-related activity harmful to
22 Illinois citizens' safety and well-being; and

1 WHEREAS, Criminal street gangs are rapidly employing new
2 technology, including the utilization of social media, to
3 orchestrate drug activity and violence; and

4 WHEREAS, Governor Jim Edgar last established a study on
5 Illinois gang problems when he established the Governor's
6 Commission on Gangs in 1995; and

7 WHEREAS, The General Assembly recognizes a current need for
8 a new task force to study and analyze the recent increase in
9 street gang violence in Illinois; therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
11 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
12 there is created the Illinois Task Force on Gang Violence; and
13 be it further

14 RESOLVED, that the Task Force shall be comprised of the
15 following members, all of whom shall serve without
16 compensation; (1) 2 representatives, appointed by the Speaker
17 of the Illinois House of Representatives; (2) 2
18 representatives, appointed by the Minority Leader of the
19 Illinois House of Representatives; (3) a representative of the
20 Cook County State's Attorney's office, appointed by the Cook
21 County State's Attorney; (4) a representative on behalf of the

1 State's Attorney offices in Illinois counties other than Cook
2 County, designated by the Illinois State Attorney's
3 Association; (5) a representative of the Illinois State Police,
4 appointed by the Director of the Illinois State Police; (6) a
5 representative from the Chicago Police Department, appointed
6 by the Mayor of the City of Chicago; (7) a representative of
7 the Cook County Sheriff's Department, appointed by the Cook
8 County Sheriff's Department; and (8) a representative on behalf
9 of the Sheriffs' Departments in Illinois counties other than
10 Cook County, designated by the Illinois Sheriffs Association;
11 and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That the Speaker and Minority Leader shall each
13 designate one representative to serve as co-chairs of the Task
14 Force; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That the Illinois State Police shall provide
16 administrative and other support to the Task Force; and be it
17 further

18 RESOLVED, That the Task Force is charged with conducting
19 subject matter hearings, which should include testimony from
20 those individuals with knowledge of gang violence, involved
21 with communities experiencing gang violence, or affected by
22 gang violence; the Task Force shall then analyze the data
23 regarding the increase in gang activity in Illinois and issue a

1 public report of its findings and recommendations to help
2 Illinois combat street gang violence on or before January 1,
3 2013.