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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, Our nation is continuing to experience high  
3 unemployment rates and a national economic recession that  
4 directly affects our ability to compete in a global job market;  
5 and

6           WHEREAS, The employment of future workers and the  
7 re-employment of displaced workers are dependent upon the  
8 availability of training programs to provide individuals with  
9 the skills needed in critical industries; and

10           WHEREAS, High school and college career and occupational  
11 education is enhanced when local businesses in key industries  
12 provide input on curricula and offer work-based learning  
13 opportunities in occupations with family-sustaining careers;  
14 and

15           WHEREAS, Innovation and the spread of good management  
16 practices are accelerated when businesses work together to  
17 identify and meet their common training and skill needs; and

18           WHEREAS, Workers' ability to succeed in today's  
19 knowledge-based, global economy is enhanced when employers  
20 invest in their skills and when businesses develop skill  
21 certifications recognized industry wide and articulated with

1 college credit; and

2 WHEREAS, The ability of low-income workers to have a real  
3 chance at pathways out of poverty requires training providers  
4 and other service providers to have first-hand knowledge of  
5 employers' skill needs and how workers can be supported to meet  
6 those standards; and

7 WHEREAS, Local Workforce Investment Boards are, by  
8 statute, composed primarily of individuals from the private  
9 sector; as such, they are the appropriate vehicle to identify  
10 the needs and opportunities within their local community and  
11 work with education providers to address those needs through  
12 the local education system, including community colleges,  
13 not-for-profit organizations, and proprietary schools; and

14 WHEREAS, It is fitting to promote the continuation and role  
15 of local Workforce Investment Boards as the most effective  
16 vehicle available to address the needs of businesses and  
17 individuals through the establishment of local workforce  
18 development programs and services; and

19 WHEREAS, The week of August 26 - September 1, 2012 will be  
20 an opportunity to highlight innovative approaches offered  
21 through local Workforce Investment Boards to build the State's  
22 workforce; 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 designate the week of August 26 through September 1, 2012,  
4 as "Workforce Development Week" in the State of Illinois and  
5 encourage individuals, businesses, and governmental  
6 organizations in this State to visit and promote the programs  
7 and services offered through local Workforce Investment  
8 Boards.