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1 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 30

2 (As Amended by Senate Amendment Nos. 1 & 2)

3 WHEREAS, The astronomical number of vacant homes and "for  
4 sale" signs in Illinois communities reveal the dramatic impact  
5 the current economic crisis has had on homeowners throughout  
6 this State; and

7 WHEREAS, In the third quarter of 2010, Illinois posted the  
8 nation's fourth largest foreclosure activity total, with  
9 47,802 properties receiving foreclosure filings, according to  
10 Realty Trac; and

11 WHEREAS, The foreclosure and housing crisis is a setback in  
12 years of gains Illinoisans had achieved in the frontiers of  
13 homeownership and wealth creation; for the first time, there  
14 seems to be a regressive pattern where homeowners are moving  
15 towards becoming homeless; these alarming statistics are the  
16 impetus for public intervention that will examine and provide  
17 direction on the residential mortgage foreclosure crisis and  
18 housing availability in this State; and

19 WHEREAS, Communities throughout this State are in need of  
20 additional resources to creatively respond to the detrimental  
21 issues caused by the enormous tide of foreclosures and the  
22 housing crisis; and

1           WHEREAS, The Comprehensive Housing Planning Act created  
2 the State Housing Task Force, which is charged with creating a  
3 comprehensive and unified policy for the allocation of  
4 resources for affordable housing and supportive services for  
5 historically underserved populations throughout the State, in  
6 order to accomplish the following:

7           (1) address the need to make available quality housing at a  
8 variety of price points in communities throughout the State;

9           (2) overcome the shortage of affordable housing, which  
10 threatens the viability of many communities;

11           (3) meet the need for safe, sanitary, and accessible  
12 affordable housing and supportive services for people with  
13 disabilities;

14           (4) promote a full range of quality housing choices near  
15 jobs, transit, and other amenities;

16           (5) meet the needs of constituencies that have been  
17 historically underserved and segregated due to barriers and  
18 trends in the existing housing market or insufficient  
19 resources;

20           (6) facilitate the preservation of ownership of existing  
21 homes and rental housing in communities;

22           (7) create new housing opportunities and, where  
23 appropriate, promote mixed-income communities; and

24           (8) encourage development of State incentives for  
25 communities to create a mix of housing to meet the needs of

1 current and future residents; and

2 WHEREAS, The State of Illinois' Annual 2011 Comprehensive  
3 Housing Plan published by the State Housing Task Force  
4 prioritizes foreclosure prevention and mitigation; and

5 WHEREAS, The duties of the State Housing Task Force clearly  
6 encompass the ability to study and make recommendations on the  
7 impact of foreclosures on Illinois residents and communities;  
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Recognizing the solutions to the foreclosure  
10 crisis are as complex as the issue, there is a pressing need  
11 for the State Housing Task Force to pursue strategies advancing  
12 foreclosure prevention, mitigation, and actions to redevelop  
13 impacted communities; therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL  
15 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
16 CONCURRING HEREIN, that the Task Force shall meet to organize  
17 and select a Foreclosure Prevention and Mitigation Working  
18 Group (the "Foreclosure Working Group"), of which the  
19 chairperson shall be the Executive Director of the Illinois  
20 Housing Development Authority or a designee and the  
21 co-chairperson will be a non-governmental Foreclosure Working  
22 Group member elected by the Foreclosure Working Group; and be

1 it further

2 RESOLVED, That the Foreclosure Working Group shall be  
3 comprised of a range of constituencies and stakeholders that  
4 can contribute to the study of the foreclosure crisis and  
5 formulate recommendations to address the impact of foreclosure  
6 on communities, and may include Task Force members and  
7 additional experts to provide a thorough and comprehensive  
8 foreclosure prevention, mitigation and impact strategy; the  
9 members shall be, with vacancies to be filled in the same  
10 manner as original selections, as follows:

11 (1) one member of the Senate appointed by the President of  
12 the Senate and one member of the Senate appointed by the  
13 Minority Leader of the Senate;

14 (2) one member of the House of Representatives appointed by  
15 the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and one member of  
16 the House of Representatives appointed by the Minority Leader  
17 of the House of Representatives;

18 (3) representatives of the housing industry,  
19 not-for-profit community, and private financial institutions  
20 appointed by the Task Force with at least:

21 (A) two representatives of certified HUD housing  
22 organizations that provides services to homeowners at risk  
23 of losing their home to foreclosure;

24 (B) one representative from academia with a background  
25 or expertise in housing trends and financial regulations;

1 (C) one representative of a non-profit legal  
2 organization that has experience with the foreclosure  
3 process;

4 (D) one person with a background in affordable housing  
5 issues;

6 (E) two persons with a background in housing policy and  
7 research;

8 (F) one homeowner who has been impacted by the  
9 foreclosure crisis in Illinois; and

10 (G) one representative of a local financial or lending  
11 institution;

12 (4) representatives of governmental agencies familiar with  
13 the foreclosure and housing crisis appointed by the Task Force:

14 (A) one representative of the Division of Banking  
15 within the Department of Financial and Professional  
16 Regulation;

17 (B) one representative of the Illinois Housing  
18 Development Authority's Neighborhood Stabilization  
19 Program;

20 (C) one representative of the Office of the Attorney  
21 General that works directly with housing subprime lending  
22 patterns and the foreclosure mitigation process; and

23 (D) one representative of the Department of Human  
24 Services' Homeless Prevention Program; and be it further

25 RESOLVED, That the Foreclosure Working Group will serve for

1 a period of not less than 2 years from the date of the first  
2 Working Group meeting; and may continue to serve for an  
3 extended period at the recommendation of the Working Group  
4 members based on the need to address foreclosure prevention,  
5 mitigation, and impact issues; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That the Working Group shall meet at least 4  
7 times a year at the call of the chairperson; members of the  
8 Foreclosure Working Group shall serve without compensation.  
9 Members of the State Housing Task Force may be reimbursed for  
10 reasonable expenses incurred as a result of their duties as  
11 members of the Task Force from funds appropriated by the  
12 General Assembly for that purpose; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That the Illinois Housing Development Authority  
14 shall provide staffing, administrative, and financial support  
15 to the Foreclosure Working Group; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That the duties of the Foreclosure Working Group  
17 shall include all of the following:

18 (1) monitor the emerging housing problems in Illinois and  
19 make recommendations concerning these issues; and

20 (2) oversee actions to prevent foreclosures and mitigate  
21 their impact on local communities; and

22 (3) oversee and provide insight about the rebuilding  
23 process caused by the housing crisis and provide a

1 comprehensive and holistic approach to the rebuilding process;  
2 and

3 (4) divide the work of the Foreclosure Working into 2  
4 primary focus areas as follows:

5 (A) Foreclosure Impact: This area shall be responsible  
6 for monitoring the foreclosure activity in Illinois and  
7 determining approaches to mitigate the impact on local  
8 communities;

9 (B) Housing Education and Outreach: This area shall be  
10 responsible for recommending outreach, counseling, and  
11 education programs focused on foreclosure prevention and  
12 other affordable housing programs needed to stabilize  
13 communities in Illinois; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That the State Housing Task Force shall submit an  
15 addendum to reports required by the Comprehensive Housing  
16 Planning Act, which shall include Foreclosure Working Group  
17 recommendations for effective policy advisements regarding  
18 housing policies and funding mechanisms to address the  
19 foreclosure and housing crisis, and shall provide an update on  
20 general housing trends affecting the residents in this State.