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SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The State of Illinois is committed to maintaining
3 stringent standards for chemical and nuclear safety, and for
4 the protection of workers, residents, and the environment; and

5 WHEREAS, The Honeywell International, Inc. Metropolis
6 Works specialty chemicals facility in Metropolis is the only
7 uranium conversion facility in the United States, and the only
8 domestic producer of uranium hexafluoride, a key component in
9 nuclear fuel; and

10 WHEREAS, Environmental Protection Agency Enforcement and
11 Compliance records for the Honeywell International, Inc. site
12 in Metropolis reveal non-compliance with the Clean Water Act
13 during 10 of the last 12 quarters, non-compliance with the
14 Resource Conservation and Recovery Act during 12 of the last 12
15 quarters, and non-compliance with the Clean Air Act during 6 of
16 the last 12 quarters; and

17 WHEREAS, Honeywell International, Inc. pleaded guilty in
18 federal district court on March 11, 2011 to one felony count of
19 knowingly storing hazardous and radioactive waste in
20 Metropolis without a permit and in violation of the Resource
21 Conservation and Recovery Act and was sentenced to a criminal
22 fine of \$11.8 million and five years of probation; and

1 WHEREAS, The United States Environmental Protection Agency
2 has stated that "Honeywell must account for its knowing
3 violation of a federal law that protects the public from
4 exposure to hazardous waste containing radioactive material,"
5 and that the company's illegal actions "put employees at risk
6 of exposure to radioactive and hazardous materials"; and

7 WHEREAS, Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan reported
8 on March 14, 2011 that Honeywell International, Inc. has agreed
9 to pay a civil penalty of \$690,000 to resolve a separate
10 lawsuit stemming from its illegal storage of thousands of drums
11 of radioactive and hazardous waste near Route 45 in Metropolis;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, Honeywell International, Inc. reported on 2010
14 Tier Two forms that its specialty chemicals facility in
15 Metropolis housed a daily average of 66,591,684 pounds of
16 substances classified by the company as immediate health
17 hazards, and 65,859,160 pounds of substances classified by the
18 company as chronic health hazards in the event of exposure; and

19 WHEREAS, These substances include daily averages of
20 33,035,000 pounds of radioactive uranium ore and radioactive
21 uranium chemical compounds, as well as 2,094,000 pounds of
22 hydrogen fluoride, a chemical regulated as an Extremely

1 Hazardous Substance under the Emergency Planning and Community
2 Right-to-Know Act; and

3 WHEREAS, Honeywell International, Inc. has estimated that
4 an accidental release of even a small portion of the hydrogen
5 fluoride stored at the site could catastrophically impact up to
6 128,000 residents within a 25-mile radius of the Metropolis
7 Works site; and

8 WHEREAS, On June 28, 2010, Honeywell International, Inc.
9 locked out the experienced workforce that had been responsible
10 for handling these hazardous chemicals, despite workers
11 offering to remain on the job as contract negotiations
12 continued, and in September of 2010 hired temporary replacement
13 workers to resume operation of its uranium conversion facility;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission mandated
16 that these temporary replacement workers be evaluated prior to
17 being allowed to operate the plant, and required that Honeywell
18 International, Inc. "ensure no coaching occurs during the
19 On-the-Job Evaluations (OJE)" and maintain "strict control" of
20 "written examinations, related answer keys, examination banks,
21 Job Performance Measures, and all other examination
22 instruments"; and

1 WHEREAS, Honeywell International, Inc. was cited by the
2 United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) on November
3 10, 2010 for violating the rule that expressly forbade coaching
4 when it, among other instances, "showed the candidate the
5 locations of several components when the candidate was unable
6 to locate them" and "helped the candidate follow the procedure
7 when the candidate became confused"; and

8 WHEREAS, Honeywell International, Inc. was cited by the NRC
9 for additional violations when it "failed to maintain strict
10 control over examination materials," allowed candidates "to
11 hear and listen to oral evaluation questions prior to their own
12 examination," and further permitted "a number of operator
13 candidates to observe another operator as he performed his OJE,
14 thus compromising the task performance portion of the OJE"; and

15 WHEREAS, Honeywell International, Inc. has admitted to at
16 least one release at the Metropolis site since its temporary
17 replacement workers began operating the facility, specifically
18 a release of hydrogen fluoride on December 22, 2010, which
19 lasted approximately two hours and triggered emergency sirens
20 and emergency mitigation systems; and

21 WHEREAS, The workers presently locked out by Honeywell
22 International, Inc. possess numerous years of experience and
23 training inside the Metropolis Works facility; therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL
2 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we recognize the
3 importance of utilizing experienced and highly trained workers
4 for the operation of chemical and nuclear facilities that use,
5 store, and produce radioactive or hazardous substances; and be
6 it further

7 RESOLVED, That we condemn the actions of Honeywell
8 International, Inc. with regard to the lockout of experienced
9 workers at the Metropolis Works specialty chemicals facility in
10 Metropolis and calls on Honeywell to promptly end its lockout;
11 and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That we condemn the actions of Honeywell
13 International, Inc. with regard to repeated instances of
14 non-compliance with the Resource Conservation and Recovery
15 Act, the Clean Water Act, and the Clean Air Act; and be it
16 further

17 RESOLVED, That we urge the U.S. Environmental Protection
18 Agency, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and all relevant
19 regulatory bodies to define clear jurisdiction over the
20 Metropolis Works facility, and to conduct comprehensive and
21 ongoing investigations, including full multi-media
22 inspections, to ensure that the facility is operated safely and

1 in compliance with federal regulations; and be it further

2 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
3 delivered to United States President Barack Obama, members of
4 the Illinois Congressional Delegation, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory
5 Commission Chairman Gregory Jaczko, U.S. EPA Administrator
6 Lisa Jackson, Honeywell International, Inc. CEO David Cote, and
7 Honeywell Metropolis Works Plant Manager Larry Smith.