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1 SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Many State-supported passenger trains in Illinois
3 currently are operating at full capacity; and

4 WHEREAS, Passenger train demand has doubled in the last 5
5 years and continues to grow; and

6 WHEREAS, The federal government has provided Illinois and
7 the Midwest states with capital grants to acquire new
8 "Next-Generation" passenger trains; and

9 WHEREAS, The "Next-Generation" train order is designed to
10 replace, not supplement, the number of trains in service; and

11 WHEREAS, The State of Illinois will not be able to
12 accommodate increased ridership solely through the use of
13 "Next-Generation" trains; and

14 WHEREAS, Federal law has mandated that states shall begin
15 to make capital payments for trains in service as of October
16 2013; and

17 WHEREAS, The State of Illinois' capital payments can favor
18 the continued growth and reduced cost of its State-supported
19 passenger trains; and

1 WHEREAS, The State of Illinois can increase its ridership
2 capacity by directing these capital payments to high-speed,
3 high-capacity trains that are interoperable with the State's
4 "Next-Generation" train specification to supplement
5 "Next-Generation" trains; and

6 WHEREAS, The State of Illinois may offset the capital
7 payments for these trains by selling more tickets made
8 available by the greater number of seats on these trains;
9 therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL
11 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that in order to address the
12 above capacity and cost issues, the Illinois Department of
13 Transportation (IDOT) shall develop a strategy to acquire
14 additional passenger railcars in advance of the Next Generation
15 deliveries and shall deliver an action plan to implement this
16 strategy; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That any trains used to supplement the current
18 fleet must be able to operate at speeds of 110 MPH, must have a
19 high-capacity of over 72 seats per coach, must be interoperable
20 with the State's "Next-Generation" train specification, and
21 must be delivered in advance of the receipt of the State's
22 "Next-Generation" trains; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That IDOT shall deliver the action plan in
2 writing no later than 30 days from adoption of this resolution
3 to the members of the Illinois Senate, the Governor of the
4 State of Illinois, the Illinois Secretary of Transportation,
5 the Illinois Director of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, and
6 the Director of the Governor's Office of Management and Budget.