



HR1161

LRB098 21547 GRL 60170 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, According to the College Board, the average  
3 student at a 4-year university spent an estimated \$1,222 per  
4 year on college books and supplies; and

5           WHEREAS, According to the National Association of College  
6 Stores, the gross margin on new college textbooks was 25.6% in  
7 2012; and

8           WHEREAS, The United States Government Accountability  
9 Office has found that college textbook prices have risen at  
10 twice the rate of annual inflation over the last 2 decades and  
11 that new textbook prices increased 82% over the last decade;  
12 and

13           WHEREAS, Real median annual household income has decreased  
14 by \$5,000 since 2000; and

15           WHEREAS, An open source material project that would make  
16 high-quality educational materials freely available to the  
17 general public would reduce college textbook costs and increase  
18 accessibility to such education materials; and

19           WHEREAS, College-level open source course work materials  
20 in math, physics, and chemistry represent a high-priority first

1 step in this area; and

2 WHEREAS, The scientific and technical workforce at federal  
3 agencies, national laboratories, and federally-funded research  
4 and development centers could make a valuable contribution to  
5 this effort; and

6 WHEREAS, A federal oversight role in the creation and  
7 maintenance of standard, publicly-vetted textbooks is  
8 desirable to ensure that intellectual property is respected and  
9 that public standards for quality, educational effectiveness,  
10 and scientific accuracy are maintained; therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
12 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
13 we urge the members of the United States House of  
14 Representatives to pass H.R. 4455, the Learning Opportunities  
15 With Creation of Open Source Textbooks (LOW COST) Act of 2014;  
16 and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be  
18 delivered to the members of the Illinois congressional  
19 delegation.