



SR1002

LRB098 20582 MST 56852 r

1

SENATE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The essence of American Democracy is a government  
3 of the people, by the people and for the people, and that  
4 democracy reflects the engagement and leadership of all  
5 generations and the premise that citizens can serve; and

6           WHEREAS, Throughout the lifespan, service instills the  
7 knowledge that citizenship brings responsibility and that  
8 everyone has talents and skills to make their community a  
9 better place; and

10           WHEREAS, Service brings opportunities for learning that  
11 boost student success, focus on new skills for workers, and  
12 embrace the gifts of older generations to address community  
13 needs and bring a spirit of involvement; and

14           WHEREAS, Research by the Corporation for National and  
15 Community Service, the federal agency that administers the  
16 national service programs AmeriCorps and Senior Corps,  
17 revealed that 27.4% of Illinoisans volunteered in 2012,  
18 contributing 286,000,000 hours to the most pressing challenges  
19 of communities; and

20           WHEREAS, Research by Generations Serving Generations, a  
21 public/private partnership launched by the National Governors

1 Association Center for Best Practices, concluded that many  
2 Illinoisans who do not volunteer would like to, but simply do  
3 not know how to get connected to service opportunities; and

4 WHEREAS, Generations Serving Generations and leaders from  
5 AGING & RETIREE ORGANIZATIONS (The Illinois Department on  
6 Aging, the Association of Area Agencies on Aging, the Illinois  
7 Municipal Retirees Fund), EDUCATION (Illinois Board of Higher  
8 Education, the Illinois State Board of Education, the Illinois  
9 Community College Board, the Council of Community College  
10 presidents, and the Illinois State Library); SERVICE (the Serve  
11 Illinois Commission, the Corporation for National and  
12 Community Service, and Illinois Campus Compact); BUSINESS  
13 (Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce); FOUNDATIONS (Robert R.  
14 McCormick Foundation and the Retirement Research Foundation),  
15 and others, join together in supporting a Call to Service;  
16 therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL  
18 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that it is in the interest  
19 of the citizens of this State to strengthen the infrastructure  
20 of volunteerism as a resource for meeting the challenges of  
21 education, promoting healthy lifestyles for all ages, and  
22 boosting the independence of older generations; and be it  
23 further

1           RESOLVED, That by December 31, 2014, Generations Serving  
2           Generations, in collaboration with the State leadership in  
3           education, aging, service, and the private sector, will convene  
4           a Senate Forum and prepare recommendations on strengthening the  
5           infrastructure of volunteerism and national service; and be it  
6           further

7           RESOLVED, That 2015 will be set as a Year of Service and  
8           Civic Engagement, that will engage all generations as  
9           participants, planners, organizers, and leaders of the  
10          volunteer infrastructure.