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LRB099 20038 MST 44444 r

1 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Aurora University is a private university with a  
3 public purpose that desires to engage partners for the  
4 betterment of the community; and

5 WHEREAS, Aurora University and its partners desire to  
6 increase interest and achievement in science and mathematics  
7 prior to students matriculating to high school; and

8 WHEREAS, 43% of 2014 ACT-tested high school graduates in  
9 the United States met the ACT College Readiness Benchmark for  
10 mathematics; and

11 WHEREAS, 37% of 2014 ACT-tested high school graduates in  
12 the United States met the ACT College Readiness Benchmark for  
13 science; and

14 WHEREAS, Aurora University and its partners wrote a  
15 proposal to strengthen science and mathematics education in  
16 response to a community challenge from the Dunham Fund; and

17 WHEREAS, The John C. Dunham STEM Partnership School was  
18 authorized by Public Act 98-786, which provided that 2 or more  
19 contiguous school districts with all or a portion of their  
20 territory located within the same municipality may provide a

1 math and science partnership school through an institution of  
2 higher learning; and

3 WHEREAS, Aurora University, Aurora East School District  
4 131, Aurora West School District 129, Batavia School District  
5 101, and Indian Prairie School District 204 entered into a  
6 governing agreement to operate the John C. Dunham STEM  
7 Partnership School under this law to inspire students to  
8 transformative academic achievement in science and  
9 mathematics; and

10 WHEREAS, Corporations, businesses, not-for-profits, and  
11 government entities have partnered with Aurora University and  
12 the school districts to develop and implement a curriculum that  
13 utilizes the community and University as a laboratory; and

14 WHEREAS, The success of the school's vision and model  
15 depends in large measure on the ongoing commitment of its  
16 partners; and

17 WHEREAS, The John C. Dunham STEM Partnership School can  
18 serve as a national model of education that can be replicated  
19 in other municipalities; therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL  
21 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

1 CONCURRING HEREIN, that we urge other school districts around  
2 the State of Illinois to look to the John C. Dunham STEM  
3 Partnership School as a replicable model for education and to  
4 take similar actions in establishing math and science  
5 partnership schools.