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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, In recent fiscal years, grants to various entities throughout the State have been closely examined for their efficiency and usage of State funding; and

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WHEREAS, On March 1, 2011, Cinespace Chicago Film Studios received a grant of \$5 million for a portion of the overall costs necessary to purchase both the Central Plant and the North Plant of the former Joseph T. Ryerson & Son, Inc. Steel Plant for the creation of a film studio; and

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WHEREAS, On March 1, 2012, Cinespace Chicago Film Studios received a grant of \$1.3 million for the funding of energy efficiency measures that include, but are not limited to, steam boiler, pumps, and lighting to be installed at its facility in Chicago; and

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WHEREAS, On March 1, 2012, Cinespace Chicago Film Studios received a grant of \$1 million for a portion of the overall costs necessary to purchase the South Plant of the former Joseph T. Ryerson & Son, Inc. Steel Plant for the creation of a film studio; and

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WHEREAS, On August 1, 2013, Cinespace Chicago Film Studios received a grant of \$10 million to go toward costs associated

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1 with the purchase of a commercial property located at 1420  
2 South Rockwell Street in Chicago, which is adjacent to the  
3 previously purchased properties, and to reimburse the grantee  
4 for prior incurred costs associated with construction and  
5 renovation activities conducted during 2012 and 2013 at the  
6 previously purchased "Central Plant", "North Plant", and  
7 "South Plant"; and

8 WHEREAS, Cinespace Chicago Film Studios returned a \$10  
9 million grant after significant concerns were raised; and

10 WHEREAS, Many questions exist surrounding the timing and  
11 utilization of the multiple State grants that Cinespace Chicago  
12 Film Studios has accepted; and

13 WHEREAS, It is the duty of the leaders of this State to  
14 guarantee that State grants are being utilized in a way that  
15 benefits Illinois and that they are used for the purpose that  
16 they were originally granted; and

17 WHEREAS, \$17.3 million in grants have been given to  
18 Cinespace Chicago Film Studios, and there have been significant  
19 concerns about large grants dispersed to the Studio; therefore,  
20 be it

21 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL

1 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that the Office of the  
2 Auditor General is directed to conduct a performance audit of  
3 all State grant funds appropriated to Cinespace Chicago Film  
4 Studios from the State of Illinois; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That we urge Cinespace Chicago Film Studios and  
6 any other organization or agency relevant to this audit to  
7 provide the Office of the Auditor General with all information  
8 that may be necessary to the completion of this audit; and be  
9 it further

10 RESOLVED, That the Office of the Auditor General commence  
11 this audit as soon as practical and report its findings and  
12 recommendations upon completion, in accordance with the  
13 provisions of Section 3-14 of the Illinois State Auditing Act;  
14 and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
16 delivered to the Office of the Auditor General.