

1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The State is committed to providing high quality
3 special education services at the elementary and secondary
4 levels for children with disabilities; and

5 WHEREAS, State funding is critically important to
6 providing these educational services; therefore be it

7 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
8 NINETY-SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE
9 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that there is created the Special
10 Education Funding Task Force consisting of 17 members as
11 follows:

12 (1) four members appointed from the House of
13 Representatives, with 2 members appointed by the Speaker and
14 2 members appointed by the Minority leader;

15 (2) four members appointed from the Senate, 2 members
16 appointed by the President and 2 members appointed by the
17 Minority Leader;

18 (3) the State Superintendent of Education or his or her
19 designee;

20 (4) five members appointed by the State Superintendent
21 of Education, recommended one each by the following:

22 (A) the Illinois Association of School Boards;

23 (B) the Illinois Association of School
24 Administrators;

25 (C) the Illinois Administration of Special
26 Education;

27 (D) the Illinois Federation of Teachers; and

28 (E) the Illinois Education Association;

29 (5) three members who are parents of children with
30 disabilities, appointed by the State Superintendent of
31 Education, recommended one each by the following:

32 (A) the Learning Disabilities Association of
33 Illinois;

1 (B) the Illinois Association of Private Special
2 Education Centers; and

3 (C) the Coalition of Citizens with Disabilities in
4 Illinois; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That a majority of the legislative appointees
6 shall select a legislative member of the Task Force to serve
7 as chairperson; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That members of the Task Force must be
9 appointed as soon as possible after this resolution has been
10 adopted by both houses and that a vacancy on the Task Force
11 must be filled by appointment of the original appointing
12 authority; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That the Task Force has the following
14 objectives:

15 (1) to conduct a series of public hearings throughout
16 the State to discuss with citizens and experts in special
17 education the ways that the State can improve and increase
18 special education funding;

19 (2) to develop a set of statewide special education
20 funding goals;

21 (3) to propose legislation and identify revenue sources
22 to meet the goals;

23 (4) to review State and regional special education
24 funding policies to determine their impact on schools and
25 school districts and recommend appropriate changes in
26 policies and funding priorities; and

27 (5) to review the funding policies of other states to
28 identify successful funding policies that could be adapted
29 for Illinois; and be it further

30 RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall receive the
31 assistance of legislative staff, legislative agencies, and,
32 upon request, private and public organizations; and be it

1 further

2 RESOLVED, That the members of the Task Force shall serve
3 without compensation but be reimbursed for their reasonable
4 and necessary expenses from funds appropriated for that
5 purpose; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That the Special Education Funding Task Force
7 shall meet as soon as possible after the members have been
8 appointed, shall hold public hearings, and shall report its
9 findings and recommendations to the General Assembly by
10 January 1, 2003.