

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives find that the rate of reimbursement for State
4 agency human services grants and contracts are almost all
5 insufficient, compared to the actual cost of providing the
6 required program or service for State eligible vulnerable
7 Illinois residents to be served under State authorized and
8 appropriated State agencies; and

9 WHEREAS, The trend of funding community based services
10 for State eligible vulnerable populations have led to the
11 deterioration of rate structures to the current level of
12 65-75% of actual cost for most services; and

13 WHEREAS, State government officials promised to provide
14 full funding for deinstitutionalized patients of human
15 services agencies at a level of support equal to what these
16 State agency caseload families and individuals were having
17 expended on their behalf under direct State care during the
18 1970s and 1980s; and

19 WHEREAS, The current financial disparity between State
20 reimbursement rates for quality human services and the actual
21 cost of delivering such services is draining our communities'
22 infrastructure of non-profit and other organizations, to the
23 detriment of non-State funded programs and services that are
24 being curtailed around the State; and

25 WHEREAS, Human services providers around the State are
26 beginning to financially collapse, due to State underfunding
27 of human services grants and contracts for service, and other
28 providers are choosing to not continue their State grants and
29 contracts to serve locally vulnerable populations, leaving
30 the State agencies to contract at a much higher rate with
31 replacement providers, often with for-profit groups, to cover
32 the required region; and

1 WHEREAS, The inability of most State funded human
2 services programs to be able to pay their direct service
3 workers a living wage creates excessive staff turnover
4 disruptive to client services and negates the importance of
5 human services as a function of State government and Illinois
6 society; and

7 WHEREAS, The issue of rate parity has become too great to
8 address with just annual Cost of Doing Business annual
9 adjustments, since these rate adjustments presume that the
10 base rate being adjusted is reasonable and equitable;
11 therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
13 NINETY-SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
14 the Governor of the State of Illinois include a substantial
15 rate increase for human services in his proposed Illinois
16 State Government Budget for Fiscal Year 2003, including
17 funding for both an annual Cost of Doing Business increase;
18 and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That the Governor also include in his Fiscal
20 Year 2003 proposed Illinois State Government Budget for the
21 first of a series of annual rate corrections to restore rate
22 equity to quality State human services provided at the
23 community level; and be it further

24 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be shared with
25 His Excellency the Governor within thirty days of its
26 adoption by this chamber, while budgetary planning for the
27 next fiscal year is concluding.