



HR0796

LRB100 18386 MST 33595 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, 94% of school boards around the country are elected; of the 10 largest school districts in the country, only three, including Chicago Public Schools (CPS), have appointed boards; and

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WHEREAS, The City of Chicago is the only city in Illinois who by law is required to appoint their school board; an elected school board would represent the diverse viewpoints of members' constituencies the same way any legislative body does; and

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WHEREAS, Having an appointed board has weakened CPS over the years; millions of dollars have been cut from district school budgets and numerous CPS schools have been closed or phased-out since 2012; and

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WHEREAS, In 2015, Chicago overwhelmingly voted for a non-binding referendum pushed by leaders of the Chicago Teachers Union, who called the absence of an elected school board the "most pressing civil rights issue" in Chicago; and

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WHEREAS, The people of Chicago are in desperate need of a board who represents their communities; therefore, be it

1           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
2 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
3 encourage the General Assembly to pass legislation that  
4 requires Chicago Public Schools board members, who are  
5 currently appointed by the Mayor of Chicago, to be elected by  
6 the people; and be it further

7           RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be  
8 delivered to Chicago Public Schools board members, Chicago  
9 Mayor Rahm Emanuel, and all the members of the General  
10 Assembly.