



SR0488

LRB100 12556 MAS 25655 r

1 SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, 125,000 children are abused or neglected each year  
3 in Illinois, and one in five children will be abused before  
4 they become 18 years old; and

5 WHEREAS, The Illinois Department of Children and Family  
6 Services estimates as many as 100,000 cases of abused and  
7 neglected children go unreported each year; and

8 WHEREAS, Children will tell an average of seven adults that  
9 they are being abused or neglected before a report is made; and

10 WHEREAS, Every delay in reporting suspected abuse or  
11 neglect increases the likelihood that abuse will become more  
12 serious, or even deadly, and that the perpetrator will likely  
13 abuse additional children; and

14 WHEREAS, There are numerous professions that are required  
15 by law to be mandated reporters of abuse or neglect of a child,  
16 such as medical professionals, teachers, social workers, and  
17 ministers; and

18 WHEREAS, Such mandated reporters are required to sign a  
19 statement prior to the start of their employment that states  
20 that the employee has knowledge and understanding of being a

1 mandated reporter; and

2 WHEREAS, Some professional organizations have taken it  
3 upon themselves to create training programs for their employees  
4 who are mandated reporters so that they better understand their  
5 responsibilities and can better recognize signs of child abuse  
6 and neglect; and

7 WHEREAS, The Illinois Department of Children and Family  
8 Services offers free online training to help all mandated  
9 reporters understand their role in protecting children by  
10 recognizing and reporting child abuse and neglect; therefore,  
11 be it

12 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH GENERAL  
13 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we urge the Department  
14 of Children and Family Services to develop a plan to raise  
15 awareness of its free online training in recognizing and  
16 reporting child abuse and neglect; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That the Department shall draft a report no later  
18 than December 31, 2017 with its recommendations to the General  
19 Assembly on how this plan should be developed and implemented.