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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, Pre-arrangement plans for funerals and burials or  
3 other means of final disposition have increasingly become  
4 embattled in controversy in the State of Illinois; and

5           WHEREAS, The types of investment plans chosen by pre-need  
6 sellers have come under increased scrutiny, including but not  
7 limited to investments in life insurance policies, trust  
8 accounts, and other funding means; and

9           WHEREAS, A lack of oversight has resulted in certain  
10 investments by the Illinois Funeral Director's Association  
11 losing millions of dollars of consumer trust funds and all  
12 accounts being marked down to compensate for the losses; and

13           WHEREAS, Litigation has been filed and criminal  
14 investigations have been ongoing accusing both Trust and  
15 Pre-Need life insurance companies of a "pattern and practice of  
16 deceit"; and

17           WHEREAS, A growing number of individuals who have  
18 contracted pre-arranged funeral and burial services are  
19 discovering that the funds deposited as part of the pre-need  
20 sales contract do not adequately cover the costs of the funeral  
21 and burial pre-arrangements chosen by the consumer; therefore,

1 be it

2 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
3 NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
4 the Funeral and Burial Pre-Arrangement Investigation Task  
5 Force be created to investigate and study the reasons for  
6 losses of the Pre-Need Funeral Trust Fund of the Illinois  
7 Funeral Directors and any and all other Funeral and Burial  
8 Pre-Need funding plans and investments offered in Illinois; and  
9 be it further

10 RESOLVED, That the Task Force make recommendations for the  
11 oversight and operation of all funeral and burial pre-need  
12 programs offered by whatever funding means, and develop  
13 possible new licenses and continuing education components to  
14 protect the consumer and profession, and to educate sellers in  
15 the industry, in the State of Illinois; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall consist of the  
17 following members: three members appointed by the Speaker of  
18 the House of Representatives and three members appointed by the  
19 Minority Leader of the House of Representatives (one of the six  
20 appointed House members shall be appointed chairperson); one  
21 member appointed by the Director of the Division of Insurance  
22 within the Department of Financial and Professional  
23 Regulation; and one member appointed by the Secretary of the

1 Department of Financial and Professional Regulation; and be it  
2 further

3 RESOLVED, That the Task Force take voluntary assistance and  
4 testimony from legal and professional organizations and  
5 institutions; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That the members of the Task Force shall serve  
7 without compensation, but may be reimbursed for actual expenses  
8 incurred while serving on this Task Force from funds  
9 appropriated to the Department of Financial and Professional  
10 Regulation for that purpose; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall submit its final report  
12 to the Governor and the General Assembly by December 31, 2009.