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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, Illinois' community financial institutions provide the local support our communities need to prosper and grow; and

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WHEREAS, With more than \$130 billion in assets, community banks know that when money stays in communities it becomes a renewable resource, creating an economic cycle that constantly revitalizes and stimulates local communities; and

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WHEREAS, These banks have made significant contributions to the economic well-being of the communities they serve through their financial support, their dedication as good neighbors, and above all, their service as financially sound and reliable sources of economic lifeblood in our communities; and

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WHEREAS, Park National Bank was a model community bank that successfully provided the quality services, access to capital, and commitment to community reinvestment that all financial institutions should provide, such as creating jobs for local residents; investing in new schools, start-up businesses, and affordable housing; supporting the work of local non-profit and cultural organizations; and exemplifying innovation, fairness, and flexibility; and

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1 WHEREAS, On October 30, 2009, after denying FBOP Corp.'s
2 request for \$500 million in Troubled Asset Relief Program
3 assistance, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation seized
4 the assets of FBOP Corp. and its Chicago-metro-area banking
5 facilities known locally as Park National Bank, and sold them
6 to U.S. Bank; and

7 WHEREAS, The closure of this profitable bank came hours
8 after Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner attended a ceremony
9 in Chicago that awarded Park National Bank \$50 million in tax
10 credits to help spur community-development projects in
11 low-income communities; and

12 WHEREAS, the rules of the FDIC create a double standard
13 that harms our communities because community banks get seized
14 and sold, even though the Treasury Secretary says Park National
15 Bank is doing all the right things to help turn itself around;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, Other community banks that make the spirit and
18 letter of the Community Reinvestment Act their core mission,
19 such as ShoreBank, Highland Bank, and Second Federal Savings,
20 may be in jeopardy; and

21 WHEREAS, A coalition of church and community leaders from

1 across Chicago's neighborhoods have taken the initiative to
2 raise awareness about the FDIC's actions against Park National
3 Bank; the Coalition's initial steps have included conducting
4 research on U.S. Bank's minority lending and mortgage
5 foreclosure track record; developing a petition drive calling
6 for a Congressional Hearing investigating the FDIC's actions
7 and the apparent lack of federal aid for a model community
8 bank, and holding a Community Town Hall Meeting; and

9 WHEREAS, For community banks to continue being an integral
10 part in the development of our communities and this State as a
11 whole, the federal government needs to consider reforms to
12 assist and preserve community banks; therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL
14 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
15 CONCURRING HEREIN, that we urge the United States House of
16 Representatives Financial Services Committee and the United
17 States Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
18 to hold hearings to investigate the FDIC's seizure of Park
19 National Bank/FBOP and sale to U.S. Bank, for the impacts that
20 this action will have on the communities that Park National
21 Bank has served so well, and the wider implications for the
22 future of community banking; and be it further

23 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be

1 delivered to the members of the Illinois congressional
2 delegation, United States Representative Barney Frank, and
3 United States Senator Christopher Dodd.