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1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

2                   WHEREAS, It is the obligation of the Illinois General  
3                   Assembly and the various executive agencies of State  
4                   government to provide such public services as are necessary to  
5                   ensure that every person in Illinois can maximize his or her  
6                   own potential and to provide such services as are required to  
7                   ensure that the most unfortunate among us can live in dignity  
8                   and safety; and

9           WHEREAS, It is also the obligation of the Illinois General  
10          Assembly and the various executive agencies of State  
11          government to not unduly burden the taxpayers of the State by  
12          extracting any greater amount of tax revenue than is necessary  
13          to achieve those ends; and

14            WHEREAS, The budgeting process in Illinois all too often  
15    fails to examine the inefficiencies brought about by the  
16    existence of redundant and outdated programs; and

17           WHEREAS, State agencies may not be in compliance with  
18 adequate cost-control measures to provide efficient use of  
19 State appropriations, or such measures may be outdated or  
20 non-existent; and

21 WHEREAS, The failure to examine measures to control costs

1       leads to ever-increasing demands for revenue; and

2           WHEREAS, The taxpayers of Illinois are faced with high  
3       taxation that is hampering the development of business in the  
4       State and creating an exodus of productive, taxpaying citizens  
5       to other States, thus making it necessary to investigate ways  
6       by which Illinois government can reduce costs and yet fulfill  
7       its obligations in an efficient and cost-effective manner;  
8       therefore, be it

9           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
10       HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE  
11       SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that we urge the creation via  
12       legislation of the Illinois Commission on Fiscal  
13       Responsibility and Reform, whose purpose shall be to examine  
14       the extent to which current practices of the executive  
15       agencies either conform to or fall short of established laws,  
16       regulations, and best practices, and to determine the fiscal  
17       impact which the State realizes as a result of falling short of  
18       compliance with such practices; and be it further

19           RESOLVED, That the Commission should conduct a private  
20       sector survey on cost control in State government and advise  
21       the Governor, the General Assembly, and the executive agency  
22       heads with respect to improving management practices and  
23       reducing costs; and be it further

1           RESOLVED, That the heads of executive agencies should, to  
2 the extent permitted by law, and in a timely manner, be  
3 required to provide to the Commission and its staff units such  
4 information, including that relating to the structure,  
5 organization, personnel and operations of the executive  
6 agencies, as may be required for carrying out the purposes of  
7 the Commission's duties; and be it further

8           RESOLVED, That the Commission's recommendations should  
9 focus on the following areas: (1) Discretionary State  
10 spending, (2) Specific areas in which State agencies could be  
11 required to reduce expenditures, and (3) State budget and  
12 accounting practices leading to the establishment and  
13 enforcement of guidelines and procedures by which executive  
14 agencies must demand and confirm accountability from such  
15 stakeholders who may seek or be granted appropriations of  
16 State funds; and be it further

17           RESOLVED, That the Illinois Commission on Fiscal  
18 Responsibility and Reform, as a body with responsibilities  
19 that cross over the chronological boundaries of this Illinois  
20 General Assembly, should be created by legislation; and be it  
21 further

22           RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be

1 delivered to the Speaker of the House, the House Minority  
2 Leader, the President of the Senate, and the Senate Minority  
3 Leader.