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LRB104 20346 MST 36326 a

1 AMENDMENT TO HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 54

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend House Joint Resolution 54 by
3 deleting everything after the heading and replacing it with
4 the following:

5 "WHEREAS, Antiquated stormwater and sewerage systems are
6 associated with the municipalities of Berwyn, Oak Park, and
7 Cicero and those parts of Chicago known or described as the
8 South Austin and North Lawndale neighborhoods, collectively
9 referred to as "the region"; and

10 WHEREAS, Aspects of these stormwater and sewerage systems
11 were designed and built as far back as the early 20th century,
12 with piping circumferences and other technologies that are
13 long obsolete; and

14 WHEREAS, Due to limited capacity and other obsolete
15 technology, these antiquated systems are often overwhelmed,

1 resulting in the flooding of stormwater and raw sewerage
2 throughout the region, including streets, alleys, businesses,
3 homes, and public buildings; and

4 WHEREAS, As the result of this obsolete technology and the
5 manner in which the systems interplay and converge, the
6 residents and businesses of the region are severely impacted;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, During and following the torrential rainstorm
9 that took place on July 2, 2023, Cicero's system was
10 overwhelmed with more than 860,000,000 gallons of rainwater,
11 including millions of gallons of sewerage; and

12 WHEREAS, Those circumstances resulted in the flooding of
13 more than 6050 homeowners, 1500 renters, and 125 businesses,
14 causing an estimated \$333,000,000 in immediate damage to
15 businesses, residences, and public property; and

16 WHEREAS, In past years, residents and businesses
17 throughout the region have experienced comparable rainwater
18 and sewerage damage associated with many other storms; and

19 WHEREAS, Apart from possible support from such entities as
20 FEMA, the financial costs of such damage are often borne
21 exclusively and inequitably by the region's residents,

1 businesses, and taxpayers; and

2 WHEREAS, Stakeholders in the region are investigating the
3 option of instituting meters and other mechanisms and means to
4 ensure that those in the region eventually will bear no more
5 than their fair cost of dealing with rainwater and sewerage;
6 therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
8 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE
9 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that the Regional Stormwater and
10 Sewerage Equitable Solution Commission is created to study the
11 problem of antiquated stormwater and sewerage systems in the
12 area collectively referred to as "the region" and to suggest
13 policy and legislative solutions; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That the Commission shall consist of the
15 following members who will serve without compensation:

16 (1) One elected or appointed official and one
17 professional employee designated by the Executive Director
18 of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District, who shall
19 serve as Chair;

20 (2) One elected or appointed official and one
21 professional employee designated by the Mayor of Berwyn;

22 (3) One elected or appointed official and one
23 professional employee designated by the President of the

1 Village of Oak Park;

2 (4) One elected or appointed official and one
3 professional employee designated by the Town President of
4 Cicero; and

5 (5) One elected or appointed official and one
6 professional employee representing the South Austin and
7 North Lawndale neighborhoods designated by the Mayor of
8 Chicago; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That the Department of Commerce and Economic
10 Opportunity shall provide administrative support for the
11 Commission; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That the Commission shall convene at the call of
13 the Chair, preferably once a month and in Berwyn, Oak Park,
14 Cicero, or Chicago at a time and place designated by the chief
15 executives of at least three of the municipalities referenced
16 herein or by the Director of the Department of Commerce and
17 Economic Opportunity, following consultation with said chief
18 executives; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That the Commission shall submit a report
20 detailing recommended possible policy and legislation to
21 implement an equitable solution to the stormwater and sewerage
22 flooding problems to the General Assembly no later than
23 January 5, 2027 and, upon the filing of the report, the

1 Commission is dissolved; and be it further

2 RESOLVED, That the Governor's Office of Management and
3 Budget, following consultation with the Department of Commerce
4 and Economic Opportunity, is requested to submit to the
5 General Assembly a separate report detailing legislation and
6 budgetary recommendations to offset the costs borne by
7 residents, businesses, and governmental entities in "the
8 region" as the result of the inequitable circumstances
9 surrounding the antiquated stormwater and sewerage systems;
10 and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution are
12 delivered to the Executive Director of the Metropolitan Water
13 Reclamation District, the Mayor of Berwyn, the Village
14 President of Oak Park, the Town President of Cicero, the Mayor
15 of Chicago, the Director of the Governor's Office of
16 Management and Budget, and the Director of the Department of
17 Commerce and Economic Opportunity."