



HR0062

LRB104 09698 ECR 19764 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Administrators nationwide are facing teacher  
3 shortages; in a Frontline Education study that polled  
4 approximately 1,200 school and district leaders in the  
5 country, it was revealed that two out of every three  
6 respondents reported a teacher shortage, and 75% of city  
7 school districts are dealing with a shortage; and

8 WHEREAS, Illinois is a prime example of this teacher  
9 shortage with over 4,000 teaching positions in Illinois left  
10 unfilled as of October 2023; a survey report released by the  
11 Illinois Association of Regional Superintendents revealed that  
12 over 90% of schools in the State reported having issues with  
13 teacher shortages in the 2023 to 2024 school year; and

14 WHEREAS, ISBE is designated as a sponsor of an Exchange  
15 Visitor Program by the United States Department of State;  
16 through this designation, ISBE can sponsor teachers from other  
17 countries to teach in Illinois through the Exchange Visitor  
18 Program for Teachers; and

19 WHEREAS, The visiting teachers in this program are  
20 required to have at least two years of teaching experience,  
21 and they must make an initial one to three-year commitment to  
22 teach in Illinois; if the school agrees to rehire them, they

1 can teach up to five years with a J-1 visa if they obtain a  
2 program extension approval from the U.S. Department of State;  
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Through this program, ISBE has developed  
5 partnerships with foreign entities to assist in the  
6 recruitment of international teachers; these partnerships have  
7 been developed as a means of promoting multi-cultural and  
8 educational understanding, of creating a foundation for  
9 educating and connecting Illinois students, schools,  
10 communities, and educators with other countries, and for  
11 building support for bilingual education; and

12 WHEREAS, Despite the benefits of this program, ISBE is  
13 currently only working with Spain, Mexico, Morocco, and Poland  
14 to find teachers for the visiting international teachers'  
15 program; and

16 WHEREAS, Other states that participate in the Exchange  
17 Visitor Program for Teachers have partnered with countries  
18 beyond those currently in partnership with Illinois, and those  
19 additional partnerships include Taiwan, Germany, and France;  
20 and

21 WHEREAS, As demonstrated by these partnerships between  
22 other states and countries, there is a wider pool of

1 international teachers than the one that Illinois is currently  
2 utilizing; and

3 WHEREAS, To fill the teaching vacancies in the State, it  
4 is imperative for Illinois to expand the number of countries  
5 with which Illinois collaborates in the Exchange Visitor  
6 Program for Teachers; therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
8 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
9 we urge the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) to  
10 partner with more countries for the Visiting International  
11 Teachers Program to find teachers to fill vacant teaching  
12 positions in the public schools in Illinois.