



HR0360

LRB104 13583 MST 26169 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The Illinois Constitution states that "a
3 fundamental goal of the People of the State is the educational
4 development of all persons to the limits of their capacities";
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Illinois has a long-standing commitment to
7 strengthening the educator pipeline in order to promote
8 high-quality learning experiences and equitable outcomes for
9 students across the State; and

10 WHEREAS, The current Illinois Professional Teaching
11 Standards, the Illinois Professional Educator Standards
12 effective July 1, 2026, and teacher evaluation tools employed
13 in schools and educator preparation programs across Illinois
14 affirm the importance of leadership growth and development for
15 all educators, including pre-service educators; and

16 WHEREAS, Teacher leadership is the process by which
17 teachers, individually or collectively, influence their
18 colleagues, principals, and other members of school
19 communities to improve teaching and learning practices with
20 the aim of increased student learning and achievement; and

21 WHEREAS, Teacher leadership is distinct from school

1 administration and can take many forms that respond to local
2 needs and elevate teacher voice and agency; and

3 WHEREAS, Research affirms that teacher leadership
4 positively impacts student learning, school climate, and
5 systems-level school improvement; and

6 WHEREAS, Research affirms that teacher leadership provides
7 educators who remain in the classroom with career growth
8 opportunities, supporting the recruitment and retention of
9 effective teachers and reducing the costs to districts
10 associated with teacher turnover; and

11 WHEREAS, Research affirms that expanding teacher
12 leadership development strengthens and diversifies the
13 principal pipeline and builds more resilient and collaborative
14 school leadership systems; and

15 WHEREAS, Teacher leadership is a cost-effective way to
16 expand leadership capacity in schools without adding
17 administrative positions and is particularly impactful in
18 rural schools in which educators often serve in multiple
19 teaching and leadership roles simultaneously without
20 recognition; and

21 WHEREAS, Intentional teacher leadership systems encourage

1 participation from historically underrepresented groups in
2 education leadership in order to promote equity and inclusive
3 decision-making; and

4 WHEREAS, Illinois educators and education leaders have
5 formed a statewide Teachers LEAD coalition dedicated to
6 growing teacher leadership and supporting expanded access to
7 leadership development resources; and

8 WHEREAS, The State of Illinois does not have a
9 coordinated, statewide strategy or infrastructure supporting
10 the intentional and equitable development of teachers as
11 leaders or the implementation of distributed leadership
12 models; and

13 WHEREAS, Increasing support for districts and schools in
14 developing teacher leaders and implementing distributed
15 leadership can accelerate the expansion of effective
16 leadership practices and improve educational outcomes across
17 the state; therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
19 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
20 we affirm the importance of adopting a statewide strategy to
21 develop teachers as leaders and to leverage teacher leadership
22 to recruit and retain excellent educators of diverse

1 identities and backgrounds, strengthen school leadership, and
2 support continuous school improvement to improve educational
3 outcomes; and be it further

4 RESOLVED, That we urge the Illinois State Board of
5 Education to prioritize teacher leadership investments in
6 future fiscal years in order to build greater capacity to
7 conduct research and collect data, highlight and share best
8 practices for distributed leadership, offer technical
9 assistance to schools and districts, and provide strategic
10 leadership to support the expansion of teacher leadership
11 across Illinois; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That we urge the Illinois State Board of
13 Education to collaborate with educators, districts, educator
14 preparation programs, and other state agencies to build a
15 strategy for the development of a statewide ecosystem that
16 grows, recognizes, supports, and sustains teacher leadership
17 in diverse contexts throughout the State; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That we urge the Illinois State Board of
19 Education to include in its strategy multiple pathways to
20 recognize, support, and sustain diverse teacher leadership
21 throughout the State, including through collaborative
22 partnerships, expanded inclusion of teacher voice in
23 educational decision-making, and classroom teacher leadership

1 development programs; and be it further

2 RESOLVED, That we urge the Illinois State Board of
3 Education to embed teacher leadership as a fundamental
4 component of the school improvement process; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That we urge each school district in Illinois to
6 develop systems that provide teachers equitable access to
7 ongoing leadership development and encourage them to take
8 teacher leadership roles.