



HR0360

LRB104 13583 MST 26169 r

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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.