



HR0652

LRB104 20569 ECR 34050 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, Free, fair, and accessible elections are the foundation of democracy in the State of Illinois and the United States; and

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WHEREAS, The right to vote is a protected civic activity that must be exercised free from intimidation, coercion, or fear; and

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WHEREAS, The administration of elections is a core responsibility of the states under the U.S. Constitution; and

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WHEREAS, Public confidence in elections depends upon voters feeling safe when registering to vote, casting a ballot, and participating in election processes; and

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WHEREAS, The presence of law enforcement activity unrelated to election administration at or near polling places can create confusion, fear, and the perception of voter intimidation; and

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WHEREAS, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) has historically recognized schools, places of worship, and civic spaces as "sensitive locations" where enforcement actions are generally avoided in order to protect public

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1 participation in essential community activities; and

2 WHEREAS, Voting locations, early voting sites, ballot drop  
3 boxes, and election offices serve a similarly essential civic  
4 function and should be treated with the same respect to  
5 preserve democratic participation; and

6 WHEREAS, Ensuring that immigration enforcement activity  
7 does not intersect with election administration is necessary  
8 to protect voter confidence and prevent the chilling of lawful  
9 voter participation; therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
11 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
12 we affirm voting is a protected civic activity that must be  
13 free from intimidation, fear, or the appearance of law  
14 enforcement surveillance unrelated to election administration;  
15 and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That we declare immigration enforcement activity  
17 at or in the immediate vicinity of polling places, early  
18 voting locations, ballot drop boxes, voter registration sites,  
19 and election offices undermines public confidence in elections  
20 and the democratic process; and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That we urge all federal agencies, including

1 U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), to refrain  
2 from conducting civil immigration enforcement operations at or  
3 near locations where voting or election administration is  
4 taking place; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That we affirm the authority of the State of  
6 Illinois to administer elections without interference from  
7 unrelated federal enforcement activity; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That we encourage election authorities, in  
9 coordination with the Illinois State Board of Elections, to  
10 promote voter education and clear guidance to ensure voters  
11 understand their rights and feel safe participating in the  
12 electoral process; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be  
14 delivered to all members of the Illinois Congressional  
15 Delegation and the Secretary of Homeland Security.