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LRB104 20703 MST 34203 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The University of Illinois College of Medicine at Rockford is the primary administrator of the Illinois Rural Medical Education (RMED) Program; and

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WHEREAS, The RMED Program is recognized as a valuable resource to rural Illinois communities with 88% of RMED graduates staying in Illinois practice in rural Illinois communities; and

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WHEREAS, The RMED program graduated 484 students from 1993 to 2023, 50% of whom practice medicine within 100 miles of their hometown; and

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WHEREAS, It has come to the attention of the General Assembly that only 56% of RMED's graduates practice in Illinois while the programs primary goal is to produce medical practitioners who will live and work in Illinois's rural communities; and

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WHEREAS, Individuals who are from Illinois, would like to be part of the RMED program, and would likely stay in Illinois are being turned away from entering the RMED program in favor of students who come from other states; and

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1 WHEREAS, The General Assembly must play a strong financial
2 oversight role in guaranteeing that educational funds and
3 programs are used in the most prudent and efficient manner
4 possible; and

5 WHEREAS, It is in the greatest interest of the people of
6 rural Illinois communities that rural medicine is supported by
7 all of the necessary tools and resources available to maintain
8 a high-quality rural healthcare professional pipeline;
9 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 the Auditor General is directed to conduct a management,
13 performance, and fiscal audit of the University of Illinois
14 College of Medicine at Rockford Illinois Rural Medical
15 Education (RMED) Program; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That the audit shall include, but need not be
17 limited to, the following determinations:

18 (1) The cost of the program to operate and a breakdown
19 of expenditures;

20 (2) The percentage of students that come from within
21 Illinois and from elsewhere; and

22 (3) The potential effects on the rural healthcare
23 ecosystem in Illinois if the program were to focus on

1 enrolling more Illinois residents, exclusively Illinois
2 residents, or anyone who commits to practicing rural
3 medicine in Illinois for 3, 5, and 10 year periods after
4 graduation from the program; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That the University of Illinois system and all
6 of its subordinate campuses, the Commission on Government
7 Forecasting and Accountability, and any other programs,
8 agencies, or departments within the State that could provide
9 insight or information useful to the audit shall cooperate
10 fully and promptly with the Office of the Auditor General in
11 the conduct of this audit and production of findings; and be it
12 further

13 RESOLVED, That the Auditor General commence with this
14 audit as soon as possible and report his findings and
15 recommendations upon completion in accordance with the
16 provisions of Section 3-14 of the Illinois State Auditing Act;
17 and be it further; and

18 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
19 delivered to the Auditor General and the University of
20 Illinois College of Medicine at Rockford RMED Director.