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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, Studies have shown the need for continued 2 3 assistance for children who have aged out of foster care; and 4 WHEREAS, Studies have also shown that former foster care 5 youth are more likely than their peers to have higher 6 unemployment and lower levels of higher education; and 7 WHEREAS, The Department of Children and Family Services has 8 committed to assisting youth that age out of foster care with 9 programs that ensure continued success of the child and are 10 cost-effective for the State; and 11 WHEREAS, The State of Illinois has implemented programs and 12 to assist various populations for employment

WHEREAS, There is a need to further examine existing laws and programs of other populations that may be applicable to youth that have aged out of foster care; therefore, be it

educational opportunities; and

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that there is created the Success by 25 Task Force under the Department of Children and Family Services to identify and recommend

- 1 cost-effective ways to further assist foster care children as
- 2 they age out of foster care and into independent living; and be
- 3 it further
- 4 RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall research, analyze, and
- 5 consider existing laws, programs, and benefits that could be
- 6 used to assist wards of the State in a cost-effective manner to
- 7 live independently as they age out of foster care; and be it
- 8 further
- 9 RESOLVED, That the primary focus of the Task Force is to
- 10 identify programs that may be beneficial to young adults
- 11 between the ages of 18 and 21 who are in the care of the
- 12 Illinois Department of Children and Family Services; the
- 13 secondary focus is to examine new programs and laws for young
- adults between the ages of 21 and 25 who were formerly in the
- care of the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services
- 16 to ensure their continued success for independent living; and
- 17 be it further"; and
- 18 RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall consist of the
- 19 following members:
- 20 (1) three members appointed by the Speaker of the House
- of Representatives, one of whom shall serve as a
- 22 Co-Chairperson of the Task Force;

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(2) three members appointed by the Minority Leader of
the House of Representatives, one of whom shall serve as a
Co-Chairperson of the Task Force;

- 4 (3) the Secretary of the Department of Human Services 5 or his or her designee;
 - (4) the Director of the Department of Children and Family Services or his or her designee;
 - (5) the Director of the Department of Healthcare and Family Services or his or her designee;
- 10 (6) the Director of the Department of Corrections or 11 his or her designee;
 - (7) a representative from the Governor's Office, appointed by the Governor;
 - (8) two members who are licensed social workers who work with children in at-risk groups, appointed by the Director of the Department of Children and Family Services;
 - (9) one representative from the Office of the Cook County Public Guardian, appointed by the Director of the

- 1 Department of Children and Family Services in consultation
- with the Cook County Public Guardian;
- 3 (10) two representatives from the Children and Family 4 Services Advisory Council, appointed by the Director of the 5 Department of Children and Family Services; and
- 6 (11) two former youth-in-care, appointed by the
 7 Director of the Department of Children and Family Services;
 8 and be it further
- 9 RESOLVED, That the members of the Task Force shall serve 10 without compensation; and be it further
- 11 RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall receive the cooperation 12 of any State agencies it deems appropriate to assist the Task 13 Force in carrying out its duties; and be it further
- RESOLVED, That the members of the Task Force shall be considered members with voting rights; a quorum of the Task Force shall consist of a majority of the members of the Task Force; and be it further
- 18 RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall present its findings 19 and recommendations to the General Assembly in a report to the 20 General Assembly and the Director of Children and Family

1 Services on or before December 31, 2017.