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1 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, In Illinois, more than 1.2 million adults do not
3 have a high school diploma or equivalency certificate and
4 approximately 2.73 million immigrants speak a language other
5 than English in their homes; and

6 WHEREAS, In Illinois, adult learners have access to basic
7 education and literacy activities, high quality career
8 pathways, postsecondary education, and training programs in
9 high demand occupations; and

10 WHEREAS, With the passage and implementation of the federal
11 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, adult
12 education has a greater emphasis on employability and technical
13 skills training; and

14 WHEREAS, Illinois now has three exams approved for
15 determining high school equivalency, giving adult education
16 students more options for testing, including both
17 computer-based and paper-based testing formats; and

18 WHEREAS, Eighty-three adult education providers across
19 Illinois offer programs funded through the Illinois Community
20 College Board that provide comprehensive instruction to more
21 than 82,000 learners each year; and

1 WHEREAS, "Creating Pathways for Adult Learners: A
2 Visioning Document for the Illinois Adult Education and Family
3 Literacy Program" was written in November of 2009 and intended
4 to guide operations for a five year period; and

5 WHEREAS, The Illinois Community College Board has the
6 statutory authority over adult education and high school
7 equivalency testing; therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH GENERAL
9 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
10 CONCURRING HEREIN, that there is created the Statewide Task
11 Force on the Future of Adult Education and Literacy within the
12 Illinois Community College Board; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall consist of the
14 following members:

15 (1) the Executive Director of the Illinois Community
16 College Board or his or her designee, who is to serve as
17 Chair of the Task Force;

18 (2) the Chair of the Illinois Community College Board
19 or his or her designee;

1 (3) the Secretary of Education or his or her designee;

2 (4) the Secretary of State or his or her designee;

3 (5) the State Superintendent of the Illinois Board of
4 Education or his or her designee;

5 (6) the Executive Director of the Illinois Board of
6 Higher Education or his or her designee;

7 (7) the Executive Director of the Illinois Student
8 Assistance Commission or his or her designee;

9 (8) the Executive Director of the Department of
10 Commerce and Economic Opportunity or his or her designee;

11 (9) the Executive Director of the Department of
12 Employment Security or his or her designee;

13 (10) the Executive Director of the Department of Human
14 Services or his or her designee;

15 (11) one member of the General Assembly, appointed by
16 the President of the Senate;

17 (12) one member of the General Assembly, appointed by

1 the Minority Leader of the Senate;

2 (13) one member of the General Assembly, appointed by
3 the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

4 (14) one member of the General Assembly, appointed by
5 the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives;

6 (15) a representative of a statewide association
7 representing regional superintendents of schools,
8 appointed by the Executive Director of the Illinois
9 Community College Board;

10 (16) a representative of a statewide association
11 representing adult and continuing educators, appointed by
12 the Executive Director of the Illinois Community College
13 Board;

14 (17) a president or chief executive officer of a
15 community college, appointed by the Executive Director of
16 the Illinois Community College Board;

17 (18) a member of the philanthropic community,
18 appointed by the Executive Director of the Illinois
19 Community College Board;

1 (19) a representative of a nonprofit, community-based
2 organization that provides adult education programs,
3 appointed by the Executive Director of the Illinois
4 Community College;

5 (20) a representative of a community college that
6 provides adult education programs, appointed by the
7 Executive Director of the Illinois Community College
8 Board;

9 (21) a representative of a local education agency that
10 provides adult education programs, appointed by the
11 Executive Director of the Illinois Community College
12 Board; and

13 (22) a representative of a postsecondary Career and
14 Technical Education program; appointed by the Executive
15 Director of the Illinois Community College Board; and be it
16 further

17 RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall create a statewide
18 strategic plan for adult education and literacy that shall
19 consider, but not be limited to, all of the following:

20 (1) demographics of the State's population;

- 1 (2) the State's economic and educational conditions;
- 2 (3) current and projected needs of the State's adult
3 residents with low literacy skills, without a high school
4 diploma and those who have limited English speaking skills;
- 5 (4) options for adults without a high school diploma;
- 6 (5) the federal Adult Education funding guidelines;
- 7 (6) student pipeline issues, including college and
8 career readiness, transitions to college or training
9 programs, and postsecondary retention, transfer, and
10 graduation rates;
- 11 (7) curriculum and instruction, professional
12 development, assessment, and program design;
- 13 (8) productivity and accountability;
- 14 (9) innovation in approaches to teaching and learning
15 for adult learners;
- 16 (10) workforce readiness; and
- 17 (11) partnerships involving, Workforce Innovation and

1 Opportunity Act partner agencies, higher education,
2 nonprofits, and business; and be it further

3 RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall seek input from
4 stakeholders and members of the public on the issues to be
5 reviewed and reported on by the Task Force; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That members of the Task Force shall serve
7 without compensation and the Illinois Community College Board
8 shall provide administrative and other support to the Task
9 Force; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall report to the General
11 Assembly and the Governor on or before January 31, 2018 with a
12 strategic plan for adult education that includes a series of
13 recommendations and priority actions to guide the State agency
14 responsible for adult education and literacy services over the
15 next five years; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That the Task Force is dissolved upon the filing
17 of its final report.