



SJ0057

LRB101 19742 MST 69251 r

1 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The current national immigration policy provides  
3 cruel and unusual punishment to immigrants with criminal  
4 convictions; and

5 WHEREAS, Convicted immigrants, even those found guilty of  
6 minor offenses, are being deported after they have paid their  
7 debt to society; and

8 WHEREAS, These individuals are being deprived of their  
9 families, their communities, and their country, often based on  
10 cases with inadequate evidence and an improper defense; and

11 WHEREAS, This is apparent in the case of Miguel Perez, who  
12 was a legal permanent resident and joined the Army after 9/11;  
13 he served two tours in Afghanistan with distinction and left  
14 the military with Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and  
15 brain injury trauma; and

16 WHEREAS, Miguel Perez was caught in a drug sting and was  
17 convicted without proper representation; he was sentenced to a  
18 long term in a state penitentiary and was then taken by  
19 Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) for deportation; he  
20 was held by ICE for one year pending his appeals and was then  
21 deported to Mexico; and

1           WHEREAS, Miguel Perez was eligible for Veterans Affairs  
2           (VA) health care but found there was no VA facility in Mexico;  
3           and

4           WHEREAS, Miguel Perez was only allowed to reenter the  
5           United States after he received a full pardon from Governor  
6           Pritzker; he has now achieved full U.S. citizenship; and

7           WHEREAS, The governors of New York and California have  
8           issued pardons on an expedited basis in approximately 30 cases  
9           in 2017; and

10          WHEREAS, ICE's aggressive actions can often be offset by  
11          pardons, but this requires expedited action to avoid  
12          deportation; therefore, be it

13          RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL  
14          ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
15          CONCURRING HEREIN, that we urge Governor Pritzker to  
16          immediately establish a commission for expedited pardons  
17          associated with immigration-related action.