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1 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The Department of Children and Family Services  
3 (DCFS) is charged with providing support to the State's  
4 youngest and most vulnerable population; and

5 WHEREAS, In Illinois, there are State-supported services  
6 that provide for the foster placement of youth in care or  
7 reunification of families, and it is DCFS's task to prioritize  
8 the needs of the child and find them the most appropriate  
9 placement; and

10 WHEREAS, It is essential to provide DCFS with the necessary  
11 support and resources to carry out their mission; and

12 WHEREAS, The Illinois General Assembly plays a key role in  
13 supporting DCFS's mission; therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL  
15 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
16 CONCURRING HEREIN, that there is created the Department of  
17 Children and Family Services Working Group; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That the Working Group shall consists of the  
19 following members, who shall serve without compensation:

20 (1)3 members recommended by the President of the

1 Senate, one of whom shall be designated as Co-Chairperson;  
2 (2) 3 members recommended by the Senate Minority  
3 Leader;  
4 (3) 3 members recommended by the Speaker of the House of  
5 Representatives, one of whom shall be designated as  
6 Co-Chairperson;  
7 (4) 3 members recommended by the Minority Leader of the  
8 House of Representatives; and  
9 (5) The Director of Children and Family Services and  
10 the Governor of Illinois, or their designees, shall each  
11 serve as an ex officio member of the Working Group; and be  
12 it further

13 RESOLVED, That the Department of Children and Family  
14 Services shall provide administrative support for the Working  
15 Group, in cooperation with the legislative caucuses; and be it  
16 further

17 RESOLVED, That the Working Group shall be tasked with  
18 reviewing State regulations affecting the Department of  
19 Children and Family Service in order to determine best  
20 practices associated with the Department's mission; and be it  
21 further

22 RESOLVED, That the Working Group may hear testimony from  
23 service providers, constituent groups, families, foster

1 families, youth in care, former youth in care, DCFS  
2 administrators and employees, social worker advocates, social  
3 worker educators, children's advocates, and members of the  
4 Early Learning Council, among others; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That the Working Group may compile a series of  
6 recommendations to address the needs of the DCFS population;  
7 and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution may be  
9 delivered to the Department of Children and Family Services and  
10 the Office of the Governor.