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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, Illinois ranks 47th among states for spending
3 commitment for community services for people with intellectual
4 and developmental disabilities (I/DD), according to the 2017
5 State of the States in Intellectual and Developmental
6 Disabilities report published by the University of Colorado;
7 and

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WHEREAS, The reimbursement rates in Illinois, including
9 rates for the Direct Support Professional (DSP) workforce, are
10 inadequate, forcing many in the DSP workforce to rely on
11 means-tested public assistance despite working full time; and

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WHEREAS, As reported by the national direct care workforce
13 research and advocacy group PHI, the DSP workforce is
14 predominantly women at 86 percent and is racially and
15 ethnically diverse; 59 percent of the DSP workforce consists
16 of people of color, with 30 percent of workers identified as
17 African American, 18 percent identified as Hispanic/Latino,
18 and 7 percent identified as Asian or Pacific Islander; and

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WHEREAS, According to the National Core Indicators Staff
20 Stability Survey, the average turnover rate for the DSP
21 workforce in Illinois is 54.5 percent with an average vacancy
22 rate of 13.7 percent; this is well above the national average;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, COVID-19 has made these challenges more
3 substantial as providers risk their health to perform in-home
4 visits and daily care for this vulnerable population; despite
5 a pandemic, the daily support needs for persons with I/DD
6 remain the same; and

7 WHEREAS, Since 2011, the State of Illinois has been
8 subject to the Ligas Consent Decree, which mandates dramatic
9 increases to funding for services and supports for persons
10 with I/DD; and

11 WHEREAS, In 2015, the Federal Court Monitor found Illinois
12 out of compliance with the Consent Decree, and a federal judge
13 officially found the State out of compliance in 2017; as a
14 result, the Illinois Department of Human Services (DHS)
15 Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) began to review
16 existing rate methodologies around residential, employment,
17 training, and support services rates; and

18 WHEREAS, In 2019, the State contracted with a rate
19 consultant, Guidehouse (formerly Navigant Consulting), to
20 develop potential new rates and rate methodologies using
21 objective, publicly available data sources, standard
22 administrative cost reporting, and provider-reported costs in

1 order to determine the resources necessary to create and
2 maintain access to quality services and supports for persons
3 with I/DD in Illinois; and

4 WHEREAS, The recommendations from Guidehouse, detailed in
5 their final report, are designed to identify rates that
6 provide adequate reimbursement for residential and other
7 supporting services in compliance with the State's Ligas
8 consent decree and rates required to keep pace with new
9 minimum and living wage levels being implemented over the next
10 five years in Chicago and across the State; and

11 WHEREAS, Implementation of these recommendations requires
12 financial investment that reflects the challenge of addressing
13 historical underfunding of existing services and the need for
14 new funding to respond to rapid growth in wage requirements
15 over the next five years; and

16 WHEREAS, According to the Guidehouse Rate Study, Illinois
17 requires a \$329 million GRF investment in FY22, outlined in
18 seven priority areas, to keep the system sustainable; and

19 WHEREAS, The Governor's FY22 Introduced Budget includes a
20 \$77 million dollar investment to partially fund four of seven
21 priorities identified in the rate study that should continue
22 to be funded in the manner in which the appropriation was

1 intended; and

2 WHEREAS, The State's I/DD community is very grateful for
3 investments made by the General Assembly in recent years;
4 however, despite these investments, the State has not
5 succeeded in satisfying the requirements of the Consent Decree
6 or kept pace with state-mandated minimum wage increases;
7 therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL
9 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we urge the State of
10 Illinois to fully fund the Guidehouse final rate
11 recommendations in FY 22 including the recommended changes to
12 the rate and service structure allowing Illinois to make real
13 progress toward the Division of Developmental Disabilities
14 mission to design and deliver quality outcome-based,
15 person-centered services and supports for individuals who have
16 developmental disabilities and to implement the rate study in
17 whole to maintain the integrity of the methodology behind the
18 rate setting calculations to avoid creating an even more
19 unbalanced system; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
21 presented to the Governor, all Illinois legislative leaders,
22 and the Illinois Department of Human Services Department of
23 Developmental Disabilities.