



HR0647

LRB103 39808 LAW 70422 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives wish to recognize Joliet Junior College on the occasion of the successful launch of its 12x12x12 dual credit program; and

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WHEREAS, Dual credit programs provide students with the opportunity to earn both high school and college credit for the same course that they are taking in high school, saving students over 80% of the cost of taking college courses and improving their chances of succeeding in obtaining a college degree; and

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WHEREAS, As the nation's first community college, Joliet Junior College has long stood at the forefront of higher education since its establishment in 1901, expanding from serving just six students to more than 30,000 students today; and

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WHEREAS, Joliet Junior College has established itself as a statewide leader in dual credit enrollment through its 12x12x12 dual credit initiative, which was launched in fall 2023; its dual credit program, referenced as 12x12x12 for students earning 12 college credits for \$12 per credit hour by 12th grade, is open to the 23 separate high school districts

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1 that fall within the community college's district; and

2 WHEREAS, Under Joliet Junior College's 12x12x12 dual
3 credit program, a dual credit course of 3 credit hours costs
4 students only \$36, while taking the same course at the
5 community college after graduating high school would normally
6 cost at least \$453, saving students over \$400 per college
7 class; and

8 WHEREAS, To further break down barriers to education based
9 on socioeconomic status, Joliet Junior College's Board of
10 Trustees unanimously supported a policy that waives dual
11 credit fees for high school students who are enrolled in the
12 National School Lunch Program (NSLP); and

13 WHEREAS, Joliet Junior College's execution of its 12x12x12
14 dual credit program has proven positive thus far with a
15 reported 23.9% increase in applicants for fall 2023,
16 representing 1,052 new dual credit students at the community
17 college from the previous fall semester, including a 70%
18 increase in African American student participation, or 210 new
19 students, and a 38% increase in Hispanic student
20 participation, or 277 new students; and

21 WHEREAS, Through Joliet Junior College's 12x12x12 dual
22 credit program, college administration has expressed hopes to

1 impact thousands of lives by building a strong pathway to
2 education after high school and crafting a collaborative
3 message and vision for the influence education has on the
4 quality of life; and

5 WHEREAS, In fall 2024, Joliet Junior College will be
6 offering dual credit opportunities to high school students as
7 early as freshman year; therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
9 HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
10 we recognize Joliet Junior College on the successful
11 implementation of its 12x12x12 dual credit program, and we
12 commend the community college for continuing to inspire
13 learning, transform lives, and strengthen communities; and be
14 it further

15 RESOLVED, That we encourage community colleges to pursue
16 and implement similar dual credit programs of their own; and
17 be it further

18 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
19 presented to President Dr. Clyne Namuo of Joliet Junior
20 College as an expression of our esteem and respect.