



1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The growing distance and time many Illinois  
3 employees must travel between home and work is detrimental to  
4 their community and family life, increases traffic congestion,  
5 helps place Illinois fifth in the nation in the longest commute  
6 times, and harms the State's environment; and

7 WHEREAS, Many Illinois employers are having increasing  
8 difficulty attracting and retaining qualified workers because  
9 of the commute time required and the inadequate supply of  
10 nearby affordable housing; and

11 WHEREAS, In a time of tight budgets, Illinois must continue  
12 to create and grow jobs while maximizing its investment of  
13 limited State economic development funds; and

14 WHEREAS, One way to maximize the State's investments is by  
15 encouraging companies, whenever feasible, to locate or expand  
16 in location efficient areas to which their employees can easily  
17 commute, where their employees can afford to live, or which do  
18 not require costly new publicly funded roads or other  
19 infrastructure and expenses for the primary purpose of  
20 supporting a company's location choice; and

21 WHEREAS, Some Illinois employers have recognized the  
22 impact of housing and transit options on their employee  
23 recruitment and retention, and in response, have implemented  
24 low-cost programs that expand their employees' adequate  
25 affordable housing and/or mass transit options, and the State  
26 could promote these corporate models to encourage similar  
27 efforts by other companies; therefore, be it

28 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
29 NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE  
30 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that there is created the Corporate

1 Location Efficiency Task Force that shall hear testimony from  
2 State agencies and private entities and shall be appointed as  
3 follows: 4 voting members appointed from the House of  
4 Representatives, with 2 members appointed by the Speaker of the  
5 House of Representatives and 2 members appointed by the  
6 Minority Leader of the House of Representatives, with the  
7 majority caucus members serving at the pleasure of the Speaker  
8 of the House of Representatives and the minority caucus members  
9 serving at the pleasure of the Minority Leader of the House of  
10 Representatives; 4 voting members appointed from the Senate,  
11 with 2 members appointed by the President of the Senate and 2  
12 members appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate, with  
13 majority caucus members serving at the pleasure of the  
14 President of the Senate and the minority caucus members serving  
15 at the pleasure of the Minority Leader of the Senate; and up to  
16 12 non-voting members appointed from pertinent fields or  
17 disciplines by the legislative members of the Task Force by  
18 majority vote from the following categories: housing  
19 advocates, transportation advocates, public interest groups,  
20 labor, local municipalities, and businesses; a majority of the  
21 legislative appointees shall select a legislative member of the  
22 Task Force to serve as chairperson; and be it further

23       RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall study ways to maximize  
24 the use of State economic development funds by encouraging  
25 employers to locate or expand in areas that are or can be made  
26 location efficient, and this study shall include the following:

27       (1) a series of hearings during which the Task Force takes  
28 testimony from experts in areas such as economic development,  
29 housing, transportation, and workforce development, as well as  
30 key government agencies, labor, business, and other  
31 stakeholders;

32       (2) a review of some of the Illinois employers, government  
33 agencies and other institutions that have implemented

1 cost-effective, innovative policies and programs to expand  
2 employees' options for affordable housing near work and  
3 convenient, efficient transportation to work;

4 (3) a proposal for how the State can highlight these  
5 corporate models and encourage others to replicate successful  
6 employee programs;

7 (4) an analysis of existing sources of data and information  
8 such as the Census Data that can inform an employer about the  
9 affordable housing and transportation options available to its  
10 employees in a certain municipality or area; and

11 (5) a legislative proposal for using incentives to  
12 encourage employers to locate or expand in location efficient  
13 areas which shall include an analysis of characteristics such  
14 as maximizing the use of existing public investments  
15 infrastructure, minimizing additional government expenditures,  
16 and locating near places offering affordable housing to that  
17 employer's workforce or requiring short commutes; and be it  
18 further

19 RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall receive the assistance  
20 of legislative staff, legislative agencies, and upon request,  
21 private and public organizations; and be it further

22 RESOLVED, That the Corporate Location Efficiency Task  
23 Force shall be appointed by June 1, 2004, and shall meet as  
24 soon as possible after the legislative members have been  
25 appointed, shall hold public hearings, and shall report its  
26 findings and recommendations to the General Assembly by filing  
27 a copy of its report with the Secretary of the Senate and the  
28 Clerk of the House of Representatives no later than January 1,  
29 2005; upon filing its report, the Task Force is dissolved; and  
30 be it further

1           RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be presented to  
2 the Governor's office, the Director of Commerce and Economic  
3 Opportunity, the President of the Senate, the Minority Leader  
4 of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and  
5 the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives.