



**93RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY**  
**State of Illinois**  
**2003 and 2004**  
**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION**  
**CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT**  
**HC0027**

Introduced 2/2/2004, by Rep. William B. Black

**SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:**

ILCON Art. X, Sec. 1

Proposes to amend Section 1 of Article X of the Illinois Constitution. Provides that a fundamental right (instead of goal) of the People of the State is the educational development of all persons to the limits of their capacities. Provides that it is the paramount duty of the State to provide for a thorough and efficient system of high quality public education institutions and services and to guarantee equality of educational opportunity as a fundamental right of each citizen (instead of requiring the State to provide for an efficient system of high quality public education institutions and services). Provides that the State has the preponderant financial responsibility (instead of the primary responsibility) for financing the system of public education. Effective upon being declared adopted in accordance with Section 7 of the Illinois Constitutional Amendment Act.

LRB093 18118 NHT 43806 e

1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION  
 2 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

3 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
 4 NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE  
 5 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that there shall be submitted to the  
 6 electors of the State for adoption or rejection at the general  
 7 election next occurring at least 6 months after the adoption of  
 8 this resolution a proposition to amend Section 1 of Article X  
 9 of the Illinois Constitution as follows:

10 ARTICLE X  
 11 EDUCATION

12 (ILCON Art. X, Sec. 1)

13 SECTION 1. FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT ~~GOAL~~ - FREE SCHOOLS

14 A fundamental right ~~goal~~ of the People of the State is the  
 15 educational development of all persons to the limits of their  
 16 capacities.

17 It is the paramount duty of the State to ~~shall~~ provide  
 18 for a ~~an~~ thorough and efficient system of high quality public  
 19 educational institutions and services and to guarantee  
 20 equality of educational opportunity as a fundamental right of  
 21 each citizen. Education in public schools through the secondary  
 22 level shall be free. The State has the preponderant financial  
 23 responsibility for financing the system of public education.  
 24 There may be such other free education as the General Assembly  
 25 provides by law.

26 ~~The State has the primary responsibility for financing the~~  
 27 ~~system of public education.~~

28 (Source: Illinois Constitution.)

29 SCHEDULE

30 This Constitutional Amendment takes effect upon being  
 31 declared adopted in accordance with Section 7 of the Illinois  
 32 Constitutional Amendment Act.