

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic
3 Opportunity (DCEO) is charged with enhancing Illinois'
4 economic competitiveness by providing technical and financial
5 assistance to businesses, local governments, workers, and
6 families; and

7 WHEREAS, As the State's lead economic development agency,
8 DCEO works to capitalize on Illinois' strengths as a center
9 of transportation, manufacturing, and technological
10 development; and

11 WHEREAS, DCEO's website, illinoisbiz.biz, is designed to
12 provide easy, fast access to the information needed by
13 economic developers and businesses; and

14 WHEREAS, In March 2003, DCEO added LoopNet, a new
15 Statewide Sites and Buildings database to illinoisbiz.biz,
16 providing economic developers and businesses with access to
17 more than 6,000 available Illinois commercial and industrial
18 sites; and

19 WHEREAS, The General Assembly finds that a key to
20 economic development in Illinois is an easily-searchable site
21 selection database; and

22 WHEREAS, Many out-of-state companies utilize the Internet
23 and state site selection databases to relocate to and/or
24 expand existing commercial facilities in Illinois; and

25 WHEREAS, The House Republican Task Force on Rural
26 Economic Development held more than a dozen hearings
27 throughout downstate Illinois in the summer of 2003; and

28 WHEREAS, At these hearings, the House Republican Task
29 Force on Rural Economic Development heard numerous complaints
30 from local economic development officials regarding LoopNet,

1 including the problem that many downstate commercial sites
2 are not listed on LoopNet and can only be accessed by
3 calling DCEO officials directly; and

4 WHEREAS, DCEO's Statewide Sites and Buildings database is
5 not easily-accessible from the illinoisbiz.biz homepage;
6 therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
8 NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
9 we urge the Governor and Department of Commerce and Economic
10 Opportunity to work with the Illinois Development Council and
11 other local economic development officials to redesign the
12 Statewide Sites and Buildings database and illinoisbiz.biz to
13 provide easy access to a site selection database that
14 includes downstate commercial sites; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
16 delivered to the Governor, the Director of Commerce and
17 Economic Opportunity, and the Board of Directors of the
18 Illinois Development Council.