



1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The need for highly qualified paraprofessionals
3 and teachers in early childhood education is growing; and

4 WHEREAS, The articulation of early childhood education
5 courses at the community college level with program
6 requirements at baccalaureate-granting institutions needs to
7 be strengthened; and

8 WHEREAS, The Illinois P-16 Education Initiative has been
9 developing the Associate of Arts in Teaching (AAT) degree
10 models as a mechanism to better coordinate community college
11 programs with university teacher education programs; therefore
12 be it

13 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
14 NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
15 the Illinois P-16 Education Initiative, working with
16 representatives from the Illinois Community College Board
17 (ICCB), the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE), the
18 Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), community colleges,
19 and public and private universities, shall develop a model
20 Associate of Arts in Teaching degree in early childhood
21 education; and be it further

22 RESOLVED, That the model AAT in early childhood education
23 shall be presented for consideration to the ICCB and IBHE no
24 later than June 30, 2005; and be it further

25 RESOLVED, That the Boards, after approval of the model AAT
26 degree in early childhood education, will work with all
27 interested parties to approve individual community college
28 programs no later than June 30, 2006; and be it further

29 RESOLVED, That the Board of Higher Education shall report

1 to the Illinois House of Representatives and the Office of the
2 Governor on the status of acceptance of the AAT by each public
3 university within six months of the IBHE approval of the model
4 AAT degree in early childhood education; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That the Board of Higher Education shall report
6 on the progress of this initiative to the House Higher
7 Education Committee no later than February 15, 2005; and be it
8 further

9 RESOLVED, That community college students transferring to
10 a senior institution with the AAT in early childhood education
11 shall have equal status with university native students at the
12 beginning of their junior year, and will be in a position to
13 graduate with a baccalaureate degree in early childhood
14 education in an amount of time that is similar to that of
15 native students; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That community colleges should be strongly
17 encouraged to continue Associate in Applied Science (AAS)
18 programs in early childhood education, in addition to
19 developing the AAT; if feasible, the core curriculum for the
20 AAT programs should be used in the AAS programs to maximize the
21 credits that would be transferable in the event an AAS
22 recipient changes career paths; and be it further

23 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
24 provided to the Office of the Governor, the Chairman of the
25 Board of Higher Education, the Chairman of the Illinois
26 Community College Board, the Chairman of the Illinois State
27 Board of Education, and the Illinois P-16 Education Initiative.