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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, State-funded homecare workers in Illinois allow 2 3 60,000 seniors and people with disabilities to live safely in 4 their own communities; and WHEREAS, State-funded homecare workers save the State of 5 Illinois millions in nursing home costs; and 6 7 WHEREAS, In order to insure a high quality and consistent 8 workforce, it is necessary to provide these care providers with health insurance; and 9 WHEREAS, As homecare is a medicaid-funded program and many 10 of the workers are at or below the poverty line, there are many 11 12 opportunities to obtain federal funds for homecare workers' 13 health insurance; therefore be it 14 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 15 CONCURRING HEREIN, that the General Assembly shall create a 16 committee to explore the options to provide health insurance to 17 State-funded homecare workers; and be it further 18 RESOLVED, That the committee shall hold a minimum of 4 19 20 hearings throughout the State and shall provide 21 recommendations for the implementation of a health insurance 22 program to the General Assembly no later than January 1, 2005; and be it further 23 24 RESOLVED, That the committee shall be co-chaired by the

Chairperson of the House Aging Committee and the Chairperson of the Senate Health and Human Services Committee; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the committee shall consist of 17 members in

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addition to the co-chairpersons as follows: one member appointed by the Governor; one member representing the Illinois Department on Aging appointed by the Governor; one member from the Office of Rehabilitation Services within the Department of Human Services appointed by the Governor; 2 members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; 2 members appointed by the President of the Senate; one member appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives; one member appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate; 4 members appointed by the co-chairs, with the recommendation of the Service Employees International Union Local 880, one member each from the aging segment and one member each from the disabilities segment; one member representing the vendors contracting with the Department of Aging appointed by the Governor; one member representing the disabled community appointed by agreement of the co-chairs; one member representing the senior community appointed by agreement of the co-chairs; and one member from the general public appointed by agreement of the co-chairs; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be delivered to the Chairperson of the House Aging Committee and the Chairperson of the Senate Health and Human Services Committee.