



1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, There are 39 public community college districts
3 serving all 102 counties within the State of Illinois; and

4 WHEREAS, Within the 39 community college districts, there
5 are 48 community colleges, serving nearly 1.2 million
6 Illinoisans annually; and

7 WHEREAS, Over the past decade, enrollment at the 48
8 community colleges has increased by more than 20% and the role
9 of the community college has expanded dramatically; local
10 communities and businesses have become reliant on community
11 colleges as the primary provider of worker education and
12 training; and

13 WHEREAS, The U.S. Department of Labor estimates that by the
14 end of this decade 85% of all jobs in the State of Illinois
15 that are capable of sustaining a middle-class lifestyle will
16 require access to post-secondary education; and

17 WHEREAS, The U.S. Department of Labor also reports that 75%
18 of all current workers will require re-skilling or retraining
19 during the current decade in order to maintain the jobs they
20 presently hold; and

21 WHEREAS, The reimbursement rules that are currently in
22 place for community colleges are, in some instances, more than
23 30 years old and do not reflect the vast diversity of the
24 structure and operation of the community college model of
25 today; therefore, be it

26 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
27 NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE
28 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that there is created a Joint Task
29 Force on Community Colleges, to be facilitated by the Illinois

1 Community College Board, for the purpose of reviewing the
2 present community college system and making recommendations to
3 the General Assembly pertaining to whether the mechanisms that
4 are in place will handle the expanded role and demands on the
5 system in the future; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That the Joint Task Force on Community Colleges
7 shall consist of the following members: 2 co-chairpersons, each
8 a member of the General Assembly, with one appointed by the
9 Speaker of the House and one appointed by the President of the
10 Senate; 2 spokespersons, each a member of the General Assembly,
11 with one appointed by the Minority Leader of the House and one
12 appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate; 3 community
13 college presidents appointed by an organization representing
14 public community college presidents; 3 community college
15 trustees appointed by an organization representing Illinois
16 community college trustees; 2 community college faculty
17 members appointed by the Chairperson of the Illinois Community
18 College Board; 2 community college students appointed by the
19 Illinois Community College Board Student Advisory Committee;
20 and 2 members appointed by the Chairperson of the Illinois
21 Community College Board, one of whom is a nationally recognized
22 community college expert; and be it further

23 RESOLVED, That the Joint Task Force members shall serve on
24 a voluntary basis and shall not be responsible for any costs
25 associated with their participation in the Joint Task Force;
26 and be it further

27 RESOLVED, That the Joint Task Force shall meet initially at
28 the call of the Chairperson of the Illinois Community College
29 Board and thereafter as necessary and shall report its findings
30 to the General Assembly by filing copies of its report with the
31 Clerk of the House and the Secretary of the Senate no later
32 than December 31, 2006; and that upon filing its report the
33 Joint Task Force is dissolved; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
2 delivered to the Chairperson of the Illinois Community College
3 Board and to the Illinois Community College Board Student
4 Advisory Committee.