



1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The U.S. Congress amended title II of the Social
3 Security Act in 1977 to enact the Government Pension Offset and
4 in 1983 to enact the Windfall Elimination Provision; and

5 WHEREAS, The majority of public employees affected by the
6 Government Pension Offset lost their entire spousal benefit
7 despite the fact that their spouses paid Social Security
8 contributions for many years; and

9 WHEREAS, An affected public employee loses an average of
10 \$3,000 per year because of the Government Pension Offset; and

11 WHEREAS, The Windfall Elimination Provision causes public
12 employees to lose up to 60% of the benefits that they earned;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, According to the Social Security Administration's
15 actuaries, the long-term cost of eliminating both of these
16 provisions is negligible while the loss of income to affected
17 employees caused by these provisions forces some civil servants
18 into poverty; and

19 WHEREAS, These provisions discriminate against teachers,
20 police, firefighters, social workers, and other civil
21 servants; and

22 WHEREAS, The State and national shortage of teachers,
23 police officers, and firefighters is exacerbated by these
24 provisions because they discourage people from entering and
25 staying in these professions; therefore, be it

26 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
27 NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
28 we urge the U.S. Congress to pass legislation that eliminates

1 both the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination
2 Provision; and be it further

3 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
4 delivered to the President pro tempore of the U.S. Senate, the
5 Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, and each member
6 of the Illinois Congressional delegation.