



SJ0075

LRB095 14427 RAS 40332 r

1 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The components of international education include  
3 the following:

4 (1) programs that teach foreign languages, increase  
5 international awareness, address global economic and  
6 political issues, and provide substantive learning about  
7 other countries and cultures;

8 (2) the exchange of U.S. and international students and  
9 scholars participating in study abroad programs and  
10 serving as cultural ambassadors between countries and  
11 cultures; and

12 (3) multi-national and cross-cultural collaborations  
13 in research, which lead to new knowledge and advancements  
14 in science and breakthroughs in technology, business, and  
15 the arts; and

16 WHEREAS, The State's economic development and workforce  
17 are intrinsically linked to international issues, as Illinois  
18 is one of the largest export states in the nation; and

19 WHEREAS, Global business and finance, foreign trade, and  
20 tourism are key sectors of the Illinois economy; and

21 WHEREAS, It is vital that the State of Illinois recognizes  
22 how international education programs contribute to our State's

1 preparedness and future competitive advantage in these arenas;  
2 and

3 WHEREAS, Higher education should ensure that Illinois  
4 graduates have the knowledge and cross-cultural skills  
5 necessary to function effectively in the global workforce; and

6 WHEREAS, higher education in Illinois should emphasize  
7 academic programs with an international focus, including area  
8 studies, foreign language instruction, and study abroad  
9 opportunities; and

10 WHEREAS, Illinois institutions of higher education welcome  
11 international students and scholars and recognize that these  
12 students increase campus diversity, enable more enriching  
13 learning environments, contribute their talents and  
14 perspectives, strengthen our campuses, and enhance students'  
15 awareness and understanding of others; and

16 WHEREAS, Illinois higher education should aim to educate  
17 graduates to be internationally aware and have competencies to  
18 address global challenges in business, economics, environment,  
19 politics, and social welfare; and

20 WHEREAS, The United States' national security, economic  
21 interests, competitiveness, and future capacity for

1 leadership, as well as the same interests of the State, depend  
2 significantly on our ability to provide students and future  
3 leaders with the best education possible; and

4 WHEREAS, Illinois has played a significant role in the  
5 establishment of the national Paul Simon Study Abroad Act [ U.S.  
6 H.R. 1469 S.991] to create a more globally informed American  
7 citizenry by increasing funding and opportunity for Americans  
8 to study abroad; and

9 WHEREAS, The U.S. Department of Education and the U.S.  
10 Department of State have sponsored International Education  
11 Week to increase national awareness of the importance of  
12 international education; Illinois institutions should proudly  
13 participate in these annual events and increase access to and  
14 expand study abroad opportunities for students in diverse  
15 academic fields and from all economic backgrounds; therefore,  
16 be it

17 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL  
18 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
19 CONCURRING HEREIN, that the State of Illinois recognizes that  
20 international education is an essential component of higher  
21 education and that international education programs help  
22 ensure that students are prepared to meet the challenges of a  
23 global society; and be it further

1           RESOLVED, That we encourage and recommend that students,  
2           faculty, administrators, and policy makers promote  
3           international education as part of the curricular and  
4           extracurricular life at Illinois colleges and universities,  
5           and that the State supports international educational  
6           endeavors which contribute to the global awareness of community  
7           members, business leaders, educators, public officials, and  
8           all of the residents of Illinois; and be it further

9           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
10          delivered to Symon G. Ogeto, Illinois State Whip for NAFSA -  
11          The Association of International Educators.