



HR0309

LRB096 12442 RLC 25399 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, One of the purposes of the correctional system is rehabilitation and to provide an inmate with skills to lead a lawful and productive life after release from incarceration; and

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WHEREAS, The Vandalia Correctional Center has plenty of land and fencing suitable for the care of horses; and

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WHEREAS, The grooming of thoroughbred horses is a skill that can be taught to inmates and can lead them to a productive life after prison; and

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WHEREAS, The program to accomplish this purpose could be established at no cost to the taxpayers since the Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation and the Illinois Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association will provide all that's needed to care for the horses, including feed, hay, all equipment needed for the horses, retired thoroughbred horses, farriers, and veterinary care; and

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WHEREAS, Similar programs have been established in 8 other states and the recidivism rate of those inmates participating in such programs is low; and

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1 WHEREAS, An inmate can be trained to care for 2 or 3 horses
2 for a 6 month period and receive a certificate that states that
3 he completed the program and is qualified to work as a groomer
4 on a horse farm or race track; therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
6 NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
7 urge the Department of Corrections to establish a thoroughbred
8 horse groomer training program at the Vandalia Correctional
9 Center; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
11 forwarded to the Director of Corrections.