



HR0955

LRB096 21361 MJR 37502 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Eastern Illinois University proposes the
3 establishment of a rural campus designation program in
4 Illinois; and

5 WHEREAS, The American Association of State Colleges and
6 Universities supported federal legislation to create a new
7 grant program for rural colleges and universities; and

8 WHEREAS, Funding will come through the U.S. Department of
9 Education's Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary
10 Education (FIPSE) program, which made it through in an omnibus
11 bill; and

12 WHEREAS, At this time, the federal government is working to
13 define the scope and goals of the program; and

14 WHEREAS, The main points include partnerships between
15 universities and local education authorities, regional
16 employers, or workforce investment boards; and

17 WHEREAS, In addition, there is an emphasis on economic
18 development through partner-based initiatives; and

19 WHEREAS, By being given a State designation as "rural",

1 universities may benefit when soliciting grant funding from
2 private or federal entities; and

3 WHEREAS, The Board of Higher Education has the capability
4 within its rules to establish a partnership with the federal
5 grant program upon its official inception; therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
7 NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
8 direct the Board of Higher Education to establish a foundation
9 to implement the rural campus designation program in this State
10 in correlation with the federal program; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
12 delivered to the Board of Higher Education.