



SJ0029

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1 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, During the 1970s, a special provision was written  
3 into the Social Security Act of 1935 concerning contingent  
4 academic workers; that provision excluded education workers  
5 from receipt of unemployment benefits unless they can  
6 demonstrate that they do not have "reasonable assurance" of  
7 continued employment; and

8 WHEREAS, Academic contingent workers in higher education  
9 are frequently denied access to unemployment benefits based on  
10 a very broad interpretation of "reasonable assurance";  
11 therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL  
13 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
14 CONCURRING HEREIN, that there is created the Unemployment  
15 Insurance for Contingent Academic Workers Task Force; and be it  
16 further

17 RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall be charged with the  
18 following tasks:

19 (1) to estimate costs to higher education institutions  
20 of a change in law that allows contingent academics to  
21 collect unemployment insurance; and

22 (2) to examine the growth of employment of part-time

1 contingent faculty over the past 10 years; and be it  
2 further

3 RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall be composed of the  
4 following:

5 (1) 2 members who are statewide education labor union  
6 representatives from a 2-year institution; each member  
7 shall be appointed by the union that he or she represents;

8 (2) 2 members who are statewide education labor union  
9 representatives from a 4-year institution; each member  
10 shall be appointed by the union that he or she represents;

11 (3) 2 members who are management representatives from  
12 higher education institutions appointed by the Board of  
13 Higher Education;

14 (4) one member appointed by the Director of Employment  
15 Security;

16 (5) 4 legislative members; one of whom shall be  
17 appointed by the President of the Senate; one of whom shall  
18 be appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate; one of  
19 whom shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
20 Representatives; and one of whom shall be appointed by the  
21 Minority Leader of the House of Representatives; and

22 (6) one member appointed by the Governor; and be it  
23 further

24 RESOLVED, That the Task Force may hold hearings on the

1 issue of unemployment insurance for contingent academic  
2 workers and shall report its findings to the General Assembly  
3 on or before July 1, 2010; and be it further

4 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be  
5 delivered to the Board of Higher Education, the Director of  
6 Employment Security, and the Governor.