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SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Our nation is continuing to experience high
3 unemployment rates and a national economic recession that
4 directly affects our ability to compete in a global job market;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, The employment of future workers and the
7 re-employment of displaced workers are dependent upon the
8 availability of training programs to provide individuals with
9 the skills needed in critical industries; and

10 WHEREAS, High school and college career and occupational
11 education is enhanced when local businesses in key industries
12 provide input on curricula and offer work-based learning
13 opportunities in occupations with family-sustaining careers;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, Innovation and the spread of good management
16 practices are accelerated when businesses work together to
17 identify and meet their common training and skill needs; and

18 WHEREAS, Workers' ability to succeed in today's
19 knowledge-based, global economy is enhanced when employers
20 invest in their skills and when businesses develop skill
21 certifications recognized industry wide and articulated with

1 college credit; and

2 WHEREAS, The ability of low-income workers to have a real
3 chance at pathways out of poverty requires training providers
4 and other service providers to have first-hand knowledge of
5 employers' skill needs and how workers can be supported to meet
6 those standards; and

7 WHEREAS, Local Workforce Investment Boards are, by
8 statute, composed primarily of individuals from the private
9 sector; as such, they are the appropriate vehicle to identify
10 the needs and opportunities within their local community and
11 work with education providers to address those needs through
12 the local education system, including community colleges,
13 not-for-profit organizations, and proprietary schools; and

14 WHEREAS, It is fitting to promote the continuation and role
15 of local Workforce Investment Boards as the most effective
16 vehicle available to address the needs of businesses and
17 individuals through the establishment of local workforce
18 development programs and services; and

19 WHEREAS, The week of August 26 through September 1, 2012
20 will be an opportunity to highlight innovative approaches
21 offered through local Workforce Investment Boards to build the
22 State of Illinois' workforce; therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL
2 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we designate the week
3 of August 26 through September 1, 2012, as "Workforce
4 Development Week" in the State of Illinois and encourage
5 individuals, businesses, and governmental organizations in the
6 State of Illinois to visit and promote the programs and
7 services offered through local Workforce Investment Boards.