



HJ0033

LRB098 11777 MST 44851 r

1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Completing a higher education credential is a  
3 prerequisite for in-demand jobs of the 21st century economy;  
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Average earnings of college graduates vastly  
6 outpace those of workers with only a high school diploma; and

7 WHEREAS, Building and maintaining a highly educated and  
8 skilled workforce is critical to the future of the Illinois  
9 economy; and

10 WHEREAS, Affordability is a major barrier for students  
11 seeking college credentials as an entrance to the middle class;  
12 and

13 WHEREAS, Students of all backgrounds need accurate and  
14 timely information on the ability of higher education  
15 institutions to meet their educational aspirations and  
16 economic realities; and

17 WHEREAS, Lt. Governor Sheila Simon, as the State's point  
18 person on education reform, reports that higher education  
19 institutions provide standard cost and completion data to  
20 education authorities but do not present it to students in a

1 standard, easy-to-find and digest format; and

2 WHEREAS, A standardized, public report of this data to  
3 students and parents could help them make better decisions on  
4 where to seek high-quality, affordable, and marketable  
5 credentials and put taxpayer-funded, need-based college grants  
6 to better use; and

7 WHEREAS, The federal government has launched a web-based  
8 College Scorecard that presents the costs and outcomes of  
9 public, private, and for-profit higher education institutions  
10 across Illinois and the nation that students and states can  
11 access at no cost; therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
13 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE  
14 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that all certificate and degree  
15 granting institutions operating in the State of Illinois are  
16 encouraged to prominently post links to the federal College  
17 Scorecard on their school websites, and also are encouraged to  
18 work together to design and post online an Illinois College  
19 Scorecard with complementary data regarding educational  
20 programs' costs and outcomes to better inform students and  
21 families regarding higher education and career choices; and be  
22 it further

1           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
2 presented to Lt. Governor Sheila Simon and the Illinois Board  
3 of Higher Education.