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1 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, In Illinois, more than 1.2 million adults do not  
3 have a high school diploma or equivalency certificate and  
4 approximately 2.73 million immigrants speak a language other  
5 than English in their homes; and

6 WHEREAS, In Illinois, adult learners have access to basic  
7 education and literacy activities, high quality career  
8 pathways, postsecondary education, and training programs in  
9 high demand occupations; and

10 WHEREAS, With the passage and implementation of the federal  
11 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, adult  
12 education has a greater emphasis on employability and technical  
13 skills training; and

14 WHEREAS, Illinois now has three exams approved for  
15 determining high school equivalency, giving adult education  
16 students more options for testing, including both  
17 computer-based and paper-based testing formats; and

18 WHEREAS, Eighty-three adult education providers across  
19 Illinois offer programs funded through the Illinois Community  
20 College Board that provide comprehensive instruction to more  
21 than 82,000 learners each year; and

1           WHEREAS, "Creating Pathways for Adult Learners: A  
2 Visioning Document for the Illinois Adult Education and Family  
3 Literacy Program" was written in November of 2009 and intended  
4 to guide operations for a five year period; and

5           WHEREAS, The Illinois Community College Board has the  
6 statutory authority over adult education and high school  
7 equivalency testing; therefore, be it

8           RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH GENERAL  
9 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
10 CONCURRING HEREIN, that there is created the Statewide Task  
11 Force on the Future of Adult Education and Literacy within the  
12 Illinois Community College Board; and be it further

13           RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall consist of the  
14 following members:

15           (1) the Executive Director of the Illinois Community  
16 College Board or his or her designee, who is to serve as  
17 Chair of the Task Force;

18           (2) the Chair of the Illinois Community College Board  
19 or his or her designee;

1 (3) the Secretary of Education or his or her designee;

2 (4) the Secretary of State or his or her designee;

3 (5) the State Superintendent of the Illinois Board of  
4 Education or his or her designee;

5 (6) the Executive Director of the Illinois Board of  
6 Higher Education or his or her designee;

7 (7) the Executive Director of the Illinois Student  
8 Assistance Commission or his or her designee;

9 (8) the Executive Director of the Department of  
10 Commerce and Economic Opportunity or his or her designee;

11 (9) the Executive Director of the Department of  
12 Employment Security or his or her designee;

13 (10) the Executive Director of the Department of Human  
14 Services or his or her designee;

15 (11) one member of the General Assembly, appointed by  
16 the President of the Senate;

17 (12) one member of the General Assembly, appointed by

1 the Minority Leader of the Senate;

2 (13) one member of the General Assembly, appointed by  
3 the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

4 (14) one member of the General Assembly, appointed by  
5 the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives;

6 (15) a representative of a statewide association  
7 representing regional superintendents of schools,  
8 appointed by the Executive Director of the Illinois  
9 Community College Board;

10 (16) a representative of a statewide association  
11 representing adult and continuing educators, appointed by  
12 the Executive Director of the Illinois Community College  
13 Board;

14 (17) a president or chief executive officer of a  
15 community college, appointed by the Executive Director of  
16 the Illinois Community College Board;

17 (18) a member of the philanthropic community,  
18 appointed by the Executive Director of the Illinois  
19 Community College Board;

1           (19) a representative of a nonprofit, community-based  
2           organization that provides adult education programs,  
3           appointed by the Executive Director of the Illinois  
4           Community College;

5           (20) a representative of a community college that  
6           provides adult education programs, appointed by the  
7           Executive Director of the Illinois Community College  
8           Board;

9           (21) a representative of a local education agency that  
10          provides adult education programs, appointed by the  
11          Executive Director of the Illinois Community College  
12          Board; and

13          (22) a representative of a postsecondary Career and  
14          Technical Education program; appointed by the Executive  
15          Director of the Illinois Community College Board; and be it  
16          further

17          RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall create a statewide  
18          strategic plan for adult education and literacy that shall  
19          consider, but not be limited to, all of the following:

20                 (1) demographics of the State's population;

- 1 (2) the State's economic and educational conditions;
- 2 (3) current and projected needs of the State's adult  
3 residents with low literacy skills, without a high school  
4 diploma and those who have limited English speaking skills;
- 5 (4) options for adults without a high school diploma;
- 6 (5) the federal Adult Education funding guidelines;
- 7 (6) student pipeline issues, including college and  
8 career readiness, transitions to college or training  
9 programs, and postsecondary retention, transfer, and  
10 graduation rates;
- 11 (7) curriculum and instruction, professional  
12 development, assessment, and program design;
- 13 (8) productivity and accountability;
- 14 (9) innovation in approaches to teaching and learning  
15 for adult learners;
- 16 (10) workforce readiness; and
- 17 (11) partnerships involving, Workforce Innovation and

1 Opportunity Act partner agencies, higher education,  
2 nonprofits, and business; and be it further

3 RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall seek input from  
4 stakeholders and members of the public on the issues to be  
5 reviewed and reported on by the Task Force; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That members of the Task Force shall serve  
7 without compensation and the Illinois Community College Board  
8 shall provide administrative and other support to the Task  
9 Force; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall report to the General  
11 Assembly and the Governor on or before January 31, 2018 with a  
12 strategic plan for adult education that includes a series of  
13 recommendations and priority actions to guide the State agency  
14 responsible for adult education and literacy services over the  
15 next five years; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That the Task Force is dissolved upon the filing  
17 of its final report.