



HR0018

LRB100 04122 RLC 14127 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, There were 77 murders in Chicago in November 2016,
3 bringing the total in 2016 to 682; and

4 WHEREAS, The total number of shootings in Chicago in 2016
5 as of December 1, 2016 was 3,319 and the total number of
6 shooting victims as of December 13, 2016 was 4,177; and

7 WHEREAS, In 2015, the number of violent crimes in Illinois
8 was 49,354; and

9 WHEREAS, The State of Illinois has seen a horrid outbreak
10 of violent crime, seen daily on the streets of Chicago and
11 other municipalities of this State; and

12 WHEREAS, The citizens of the major cities of our State see
13 killings on a regular basis; and

14 WHEREAS, The fallout of the Great Recession of 2008 is
15 still being felt in many parts of this State, as indicated by
16 unemployment, foreclosed homes and businesses, abandoned
17 properties and vacant lots, and a desperate need for economic
18 development; and

19 WHEREAS, In Illinois, there are high levels of unemployment

1 and broad declines in healthcare, deteriorating
2 infrastructure, and shrinking pensions and retirement savings
3 as workers in all fields of education, healthcare, and public
4 safety are laid off as a result of a financial crisis they did
5 not create; and

6 WHEREAS, Unemployment in the neighborhoods of Chicago and
7 other inner cities is at 30% or higher, with limited economic
8 opportunities and underserved, overcrowded, and
9 technologically outdated schools; and

10 WHEREAS, In 1967, the report of the Kerner Commission
11 stated that "To pursue our present course will involve the
12 continuing polarization of the American community and,
13 ultimately, the destruction of basic democratic values. The
14 alternative is not blind repression or capitulation to
15 lawlessness. It is the realization of common opportunities for
16 all within a single society"; and

17 WHEREAS, The City of Chicago has seen a year of gun
18 violence among the worst in the history of the City, with 400
19 people killed, a 15% increase over the previous year; on
20 average, a person is shot every 2.8 hours; and

21 WHEREAS, As a State, we need to find new strategies and
22 tactics and come up with solutions that protect our citizens

1 from the scourge of violent crime, recognizing that enacting
2 the same policies that we have passed the last half century and
3 expecting different results is, by definition, insanity; and

4 WHEREAS, Article V, Section 8 of the Illinois Constitution
5 provides that the Governor shall have the supreme executive
6 power, and shall be responsible for the faithful execution of
7 the laws; and

8 WHEREAS, Under that authority, the Governor should declare
9 a state of emergency in areas of the State where violent crime
10 is a serious problem and deploy State agency resources to
11 combat violent crime; therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
13 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
14 urge the Governor to declare a state of emergency in areas of
15 the State where violent crime is a serious problem and deploy
16 State agency resources to combat that violent crime; and be it
17 further

18 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
19 forwarded to the Governor of the State of Illinois.