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1 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, All children in Illinois are entitled to the
3 facilities and resources needed for a high-quality education;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, The Illinois charter public school law does not
6 contain a provision for charter public school facilities
7 funding; and

8 WHEREAS, Charter public schools in this State have limited
9 access to capital funds for facilities from local or state
10 sources, making it difficult to secure adequate and affordable
11 facilities; and

12 WHEREAS, Charter public schools have confronted this
13 problem by either paying rent to operate in a district-run
14 facility or paying for independent facilities out of their
15 general operating funds; and

16 WHEREAS, This produces inequity between charter public
17 schools and district-run schools in terms of the proportion of
18 funds available for direct classroom instruction; and

19 WHEREAS, Eleven jurisdictions (Arizona, California,
20 Colorado, Florida, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Mexico,

1 Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Utah, and Washington D.C.) currently
2 offer facilities support for charter public schools;
3 therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH GENERAL
5 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
6 CONCURRING HEREIN, that the Task Force on Charter Public School
7 Facilities is created to examine charter public school
8 facilities issues, including the following:

9 (1) an analysis of the current capital funds and
10 facilities provisions in the Illinois Charter Schools Law
11 for the purpose of ensuring equitable access;

12 (2) a comparative analysis of charter public school
13 facilities funding and access across the United States; and

14 (3) recommendations for ensuring that charter public
15 schools have equitable access to safe and appropriate
16 facilities; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall consist of the
18 following members:

19 (1) one member appointed by the President of the
20 Senate;

21 (2) one member appointed by the Minority Leader of the
22 Senate;

23 (3) one member appointed by the Speaker of the House of
24 Representatives;

1 (4) one member appointed by the Minority Leader of the
2 House of Representatives;

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

5 (6) the chairperson of the State Charter School
6 Commission or his or her designee;

7 (7) the chief executive officer of a school district in
8 a city having a population exceeding 500,000 or his or her
9 designee;

10 (8) one member appointed by the Governor, upon
11 recommendation of an organization representing teachers in
12 a school district in a city having a population exceeding
13 500,000;

14 (9) one member appointed by the Governor, upon
15 recommendation of the largest statewide organization
16 representing teachers;

17 (10) one member appointed by the Governor, upon
18 recommendation of a statewide organization representing
19 charter public schools in this State;

20 (11) a principal of a currently operating,
21 high-performing charter public school in this State,
22 appointed by the State Superintendent of Education;

23 (12) one member appointed by the Governor, upon
24 recommendation of a statewide education policy
25 organization that supports education policy priorities
26 designed to provide a world-class education to all Illinois

1 students;

2 (13) one member appointed by the Governor, upon
3 recommendation of the largest charter public school in this
4 State;

5 (14) one member appointed by the Governor who is a
6 representative of a community organization that operates
7 charter public schools, upon recommendation of that
8 community organization;

9 (15) one member appointed by the Governor, upon
10 recommendation of an organization representing the
11 business community in this State;

12 (16) one member appointed by the Governor, upon
13 recommendation of an education advocacy group that
14 organizes parents and supports high-quality public school
15 options, including high-quality public charter schools;

16 (17) two members appointed by the Governor
17 representing two of the ten currently operating
18 Commission-approved charter public schools in this State,
19 upon recommendation of the leadership of the
20 Commission-approved charter public schools;

21 (18) one member appointed by the Governor, upon
22 recommendation of a large, non-profit community
23 development financial institution (CDFI) in Illinois that
24 provides or has provided specialized loans, real estate
25 development, and additional forms of financial assistance
26 to charter public schools in this State;

1 (19) one member appointed by the Governor, upon
2 recommendation of a union representing teachers in charter
3 public schools; and

4 (20) one member appointed by the Governor who is a
5 nationally recognized expert on charter public schools and
6 charter facilities issues; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That the members of the Task Force shall elect a
8 chairperson from among their membership and that the State
9 Charter School Commission shall provide administrative
10 support; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That the members of the Task Force shall be
12 appointed within 30 days after the adoption of this resolution
13 and shall begin meeting no later than 30 days after the
14 appointments are finalized; in the event the appointments by
15 the Governor are not made within 30 days after the adoption of
16 this resolution, the State Superintendent shall make such
17 appointments within 15 days of the appointment deadline;
18 members shall serve without compensation; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall issue a report making
20 recommendations on any changes to State laws with regard to
21 charter public school facilities access on or before January 1,
22 2019 and that the Task Force shall be dissolved upon issuance
23 of this report; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That the report filed with the General Assembly
2 shall be filed with the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk
3 of the House of Representatives in electronic form only, in the
4 manner that the Secretary and Clerk shall direct; and be it
5 further

6 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
7 delivered to the Governor, the State Superintendent of
8 Education, the State Charter School Commission, and the Chief
9 Executive Officer of the City of Chicago School District 299.