



HR0122

LRB101 04920 MST 49929 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, During the 2018 Illinois General Primary,
3 7,945,074 Illinois residents were registered to vote, 26.48% of
4 that number actually voted; and

5 WHEREAS, During the 2018 Illinois General Election,
6 8,099,372 Illinois residents were registered to vote, 57.23% of
7 that number actually voted; and

8 WHEREAS, At least 22 states have provisions allowing
9 certain elections to be conducted by mail; and

10 WHEREAS, As of January 2017, three of the 22 states -
11 Oregon (2000), Washington (2011), and Colorado (2013) - hold
12 all elections entirely by mail; and

13 WHEREAS, Voting by mail provides several advantages,
14 including, but not limited to, conveniently providing voters
15 the ability to vote from home, financial savings in areas where
16 voting by mail can entirely replace traditional voting places,
17 and improving voter turnout; and

18 WHEREAS, According to a study on Utah's 2016 general
19 election, Utah experienced greater voter turnout in counties
20 which administered voting entirely by mail compared to counties

1 which administered traditional polling place-based voting; and

2 WHEREAS, Illinois has taken efforts to encourage greater
3 voter participation through its 40-day early voting period,
4 Automatic Voter Registration, and permitting any qualified
5 voter to vote absentee without offering an excuse; however, as
6 other states in the Union have demonstrated, Illinois can
7 pursue more to achieve greater voter participation in its
8 democratic process; therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
10 HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
11 we encourage increased investment and participation in vote by
12 mail programs in order to achieve greater participation in our
13 democracy and to better carry out our democratic ideals; and be
14 it further

15 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
16 delivered to the Illinois State Board of Elections and the
17 Illinois Association of County Officials.