

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, There are approximately 18,000 individuals  
3 employed by public school districts across Illinois as school  
4 support staff who provide quality services such as custodial,  
5 food services, and transportation; and

6 WHEREAS, These non-privatized jobs pay fair salaries and  
7 benefits which prevent high turnover of staff and create  
8 continuity of service, safety and care for our children; and

9 WHEREAS, These non-privatized jobs currently allow  
10 employees to earn a living wage, health insurance, and  
11 pension benefits for themselves and their families; and

12 WHEREAS, Many school districts are currently considering  
13 privatization of school support staff as a way to solve their  
14 budget problems; and

15 WHEREAS, Privatization of these services and jobs causes  
16 severe hardship to the workers and their families who lose  
17 good jobs that pay a decent salary and health and pension  
18 benefits; and

19 WHEREAS, The newly privatized jobs most often pay low  
20 wages with few, if any, benefits; and

21 WHEREAS, Those who argue that contracting out is less  
22 expensive than in-house service delivery often ignore the  
23 hidden costs of privatization, such as expenditures for  
24 contract monitoring and administration, conversion costs,  
25 charges for "extra" work, and the contractor's use of public  
26 equipment and facilities; and

27 WHEREAS, Advocates of privatization argue the profit  
28 motive provides an incentive for efficiency, but all too  
29 often it is actually an incentive to "cut corners" by  
30 skimping on the quality of the work performed; and

1           WHEREAS, Privatization creates opportunities for  
2 corruption, such as bid rigging, bribery and kickbacks, are  
3 created; and

4           WHEREAS, The great majority of educational support  
5 workers live in the school district where they are employed,  
6 and they feel responsible to their neighbors for the quality  
7 of their work; therefore, be it

8           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
9 NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
10 we believe that non-privatized school support services  
11 deliver better and safer services than privatized services,  
12 create more stability and continuity for students and create  
13 better jobs for employees than privatized school support  
14 services; and be it further

15           RESOLVED, That privatization of school support staff  
16 positions in any and all Illinois School Districts is  
17 strongly discouraged by the Illinois House of  
18 Representatives.