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LRB095 10688 LCT 30920 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, All Americans should be paid a living wage for the  
3 work they perform; and

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WHEREAS, The State of Illinois has recently enacted  
5 legislation that will increase the minimum wage in this State  
6 from its current level, in stages, from \$6.50 per hour  
7 currently to \$8.25 per hour on July 1, 2010; and

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WHEREAS, Many other American states have minimum wage  
9 levels much lower than \$8.25 per hour, making these states more  
10 attractive for many employers to relocate to if they have  
11 substantial needs for entry level employees; under current  
12 Illinois law, those other states will be viewed as better  
13 places for many employers to create jobs and hire new workers  
14 at the expense of people living in Illinois; and

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WHEREAS, As the United States forms a single marketplace,  
16 all wage levels, including the minimum wage, should trend  
17 towards a common level, including a nationwide minimum wage for  
18 all American workers who are citizens or persons legally  
19 entitled to work in the United States; and

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WHEREAS, On a trip to Springfield, Illinois in November  
21 2006, U.S. House Majority Leader, Steny Hoyer, incisively

1 stated the concern, "Frankly, in my opinion this needs to be  
2 national law so we don't have states competing with one another  
3 on either going to the bottom on the minimum wage or going to a  
4 level that makes them uncompetitive. It's much better to have a  
5 national law."; and

6 WHEREAS, The efforts of the State of Illinois to provide a  
7 living wage will be greatly strengthened if the nation as a  
8 whole adopts a standard, adequate minimum wage that eliminates  
9 competitive disparities on the minimum wage between states and  
10 especially our neighboring states; therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
12 NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
13 the Congress of the United States should wield its  
14 constitutional power to create a single common minimum wage, at  
15 least at a level of \$8.25 per hour by July 1, 2010, for the  
16 United States of America; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That the common minimum wage should provide an  
18 adequate hourly income for all American workers; and be it  
19 further

20 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
21 presented to the Majority Leader of the United States Senate,  
22 the Minority Leader of the Senate, the Speaker of the United

1 States House of Representatives, the Minority Leader of the  
2 House of Representatives, and to each member of the Illinois  
3 congressional delegation.