

HR1671

LRB095 23283 RCE 53981 r

1

HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Section 14 of Article IV of the Illinois 3 Constitution provides that the House of Representatives has the 4 sole power to conduct legislative investigations to determine 5 the existence of cause for impeachment; and

6 WHEREAS, In furtherance of that power, on December 15, 7 2008, the House of Representatives of the Ninety-Fifth General 8 Assembly unanimously adopted House Resolution 1650 creating a 9 Special Investigative Committee for the purpose of (i) 10 investigating allegations of misfeasance, malfeasance, 11 nonfeasance, and other misconduct of Governor Rod R. Blagojevich and (ii) making a recommendation as to whether 12 13 cause exists for impeachment; and

14 WHEREAS, In recognition of the gravity of the inquiry, the 15 Special Investigative Committee made a thorough investigation 16 by holding hearings, taking evidence, hearing arguments, and 17 faithfully deliberating; and

18 WHEREAS, The Special Investigative Committee gave the 19 Governor the opportunity to appear before the Committee and 20 participate in its proceedings and afforded the Governor more 21 than adequate procedural rights and safeguards; and HR1671 -2- LRB095 23283 RCE 53981 r
1 WHEREAS, The Governor declined several invitations of the
2 Special Investigative Committee to personally appear before
3 the Committee; and

WHEREAS, The Special Investigative Committee developed an extensive record of documentary evidence, written and oral testimony, written and oral argument, and transcripts of its proceedings (the "Committee Record"); and

8 WHEREAS, In accordance with House Resolution 1650, the 9 Special Investigative Committee has filed its Final Report with 10 the House of Representatives (the "Final Report"), which is 11 adopted and incorporated as if fully set forth herein; and

12 WHEREAS, The Final Report of the Special Investigative 13 Committee recommends that Rod R. Blagojevich, Governor of the 14 State of Illinois, be impeached for cause; and

15 WHEREAS, The House of Representatives is empowered under 16 Section 14 of Article IV of the Illinois Constitution to 17 impeach Rod R. Blagojevich, Governor of the State of Illinois; 18 therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 20 NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that 21 Rod R. Blagojevich, Governor of the State of Illinois, is HR1671 -3- LRB095 23283 RCE 53981 r 1 impeached for cause and that the following article of 2 impeachment be exhibited to the Senate for trial as provided in 3 the Illinois Constitution so that the Senate may do justice 4 according to law:

5 ARTICLE OF IMPEACHMENT EXHIBITED BY THE HOUSE OF 6 REPRESENTATIVES IN THE NAME OF ITSELF AND THE PEOPLE OF THE 7 STATE OF ILLINOIS AGAINST ROD R. BLAGOJEVICH, GOVERNOR OF THE 8 STATE OF ILLINOIS, IN MAINTENANCE OF THE IMPEACHMENT OF HIM FOR 9 CAUSE.

ARTICLE ONE

11 Based on the totality of the evidence contained in the 12 Record of the House Special Investigative Committee created 13 under House Resolution 1650 (the "Committee Record") and as 14 summarized in the Final Report of the Special Investigative 15 Committee filed with the House of Representatives on January 8, 2009 (the "Final Report"), in his conduct while Governor of the 16 17 State of Illinois, Rod R. Blagojevich, has abused the power of 18 his office in some or all of the following ways:

1) The Governor's plot to obtain a personal benefit in 20 exchange for his appointment to fill the vacant seat in the 21 United States Senate, as more fully detailed in the Final 22 Report at Section IV-A and in the Committee Record as a whole.

10

HR1671 -4- LRB095 23283 RCE 53981 r

2) The Governor's plot to condition the awarding of State financial assistance to the Tribune Company on the firing of members of the Chicago Tribune editorial board, as more fully detailed in the Final Report at Section IV-B and in the Committee Record as a whole.

6 3) The Governor's plot to trade official acts in exchange 7 for campaign contributions, namely the signing of legislation 8 related to the diversion of casino gambling revenues to the 9 horse racing industry, as more fully detailed in the Final 10 Report at Section IV-C-1 and in the Committee Record as a 11 whole.

4) The Governor's plot to trade official acts in exchange for campaign contributions, namely the awarding of a State tollway contract and the expansion of a tollway project, as more fully detailed in the Final Report at Section IV-C-2 and in the Committee Record as a whole.

5) The Governor's plot to trade official acts in exchange for campaign contributions, namely the release of pediatric care reimbursements to Illinois doctors and hospitals, as more fully detailed in the Final Report at Section IV-C-3 and in the Committee Record as a whole.

-5-LRB095 23283 RCE 53981 r 6) The Governor's plot to trade official acts in exchange 1 2 for campaign contributions, namely the appointment to a position with the Illinois Finance Authority, as more fully 3 detailed in the Final Report at Section IV-C-4 and in the 4 5 Committee Record as a whole.

6 7) The Governor's plot to trade official acts in exchange 7 for campaign contributions, namely the awarding of State 8 contracts, as more fully detailed in the Final Report at 9 Section IV-C-5 and in the Committee Record as a whole.

10 8) The Governor's plot to trade official acts in exchange 11 for campaign contributions, namely the awarding of State 12 permits and authorizations, as more fully detailed in the Final Report at Section IV-C-6 and in the Committee Record as a 13 14 whole.

15 9) The Governor's refusal to recognize the authority of the 16 Joint Committee on Administrative Rules to suspend or prohibit rules, his utter disregard of the doctrine of separation of 17 powers, and his violation of the Illinois Administrative 18 19 Procedure Act by unilaterally expanding a State program, as 20 more fully detailed in the Final Report at Section IV-D and in the Committee Record as a whole. 21

22 10) The Governor's actions with regard to, and

HR1671

HR1671 -6- LRB095 23283 RCE 53981 r
responsibility for, the procurement of flu vaccines, as more
fully detailed in the Final Report at Section IV-E and in the
Committee Record as a whole.

4 11) The Governor's actions with regard to, and 5 responsibility for, the I-SaveRx Program, as more fully 6 detailed in the Final Report at Section IV-F and in the 7 Committee Record as a whole.

8 12) The Governor's actions with regard to, and 9 responsibility for, the Agency Efficiency Initiatives, as more 10 fully detailed in the Final Report at Section IV-G and in the 11 Committee Record as a whole.

12 13) The Governor's violation of State and federal law 13 regarding the hiring and firing of State employees, as more 14 fully detailed in the Final Report at Section IV-J and in the 15 Committee Record as a whole.

16 Under the totality of the evidence, some or all of these 17 acts of the Governor constitute a pattern of abuse of power.

18 Wherefore, this abuse of power by Rod R. Blagojevich 19 warrants his impeachment and trial, removal from office as 20 Governor, and disqualification to hold any public office of 21 this State in the future.