



HJ0049

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1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The 2009 Illinois Jobs Now! capital construction
3 plan was passed by overwhelming majorities in both the Illinois
4 Senate and the Illinois House of Representatives; and

5 WHEREAS, Illinois Jobs Now! was signed into law by Governor
6 Pat Quinn, the first capital construction plan in nearly 10
7 years; and

8 WHEREAS, Illinois Jobs Now! has or will support 439,000
9 construction jobs over the 6-year span of the plan; and

10 WHEREAS, The plan is the largest capital construction plan
11 in Illinois history, with a combined cost of \$31 billion in
12 State and federal funds; and

13 WHEREAS, The Illinois General Assembly is especially
14 sensitive to the fact that State finances are at historic lows
15 and fiscal resources are precious; and

16 WHEREAS, Taxpayers are demanding that their tax dollars be
17 spent wisely; and

18 WHEREAS, The Chicago Sun-Times recently revealed that the
19 renovation of 3 pairs of State Capitol doors cost at least

1 \$669,608; and

2 WHEREAS, The Chicago Sun-Times recently reported that at
3 least \$481,364 was spent on 4 chandeliers and 2 sculptures; and

4 WHEREAS, The cost of these doors, chandeliers, and
5 sculptures has surprised many lawmakers, who have openly
6 questioned the propriety of such spending during a time of
7 economic crisis; and

8 WHEREAS, The integrity of the Capitol renovation project
9 has been cast into doubt; and

10 WHEREAS, Lawmakers would like to analyze the cost of the
11 renovation project and determine whether the funds provided for
12 other components of the renovation were wisely spent, given the
13 State's fiscal realities; therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
15 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE
16 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that the Illinois Auditor General is
17 directed to investigate individual expenditures of the
18 Illinois State Capitol West Wing renovations and determine
19 whether said spending was appropriate and prudent; and be it
20 further

1 RESOLVED, That the investigation shall include
2 recommendations for reducing the cost of individual
3 expenditures for on-going renovations that are deemed
4 inappropriate; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That the Office of the Capitol Architect shall
6 provide all documentation and cooperation necessary for this
7 investigation; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That the Illinois Auditor General shall report
9 the findings of its investigation to the Illinois General
10 Assembly no later than January 1, 2014.