



SR0257

LRB104 13230 ECR 25401 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) programs are important tools for Illinoisans with disabilities and their families to save for the additional expenses that accompany living with a disability; ABLE accounts help to build health, quality of life, and independence for people with disabilities while protecting federal benefits and encouraging employment; and

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WHEREAS, ABLE programs offer a diverse range of investment options, tax-deferred growth, and withdrawals free of state and federal taxes when those withdrawals are used for a broad range of qualified disability expenses, including education, job coaching, transportation, accessible equipment, health and wellness, and assistive technology; and

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WHEREAS, In 2016, the Illinois General Assembly passed the enabling legislation for the Senator Scott Bennett Illinois Achieving a Better Life Experience account program (Illinois ABLE) to create a pathway to greater financial independence for Illinoisans with disabilities and their families; and

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WHEREAS, The State Treasurer's Office serves as the trustee and administrator for the Illinois ABLE program, and currently, more than 7,100 Illinois ABLE accounts have been

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1 opened with more than \$101 million contributed since the
2 launch of the program in January 2017; and

3 WHEREAS, The Illinois ABLE program has helped Illinoisans
4 with disabilities and their families pay for approximately \$40
5 million in qualified disability expenses to build greater
6 self-sufficiency and to help meet the needs of individuals who
7 live with disabilities in Illinois; and

8 WHEREAS, Under Treasurer Michael W. Frerichs' leadership,
9 a 19-member, bi-partisan consortium of states provides
10 high-quality, low-cost ABLE programs for more than a quarter
11 of ABLE-eligible people with disabilities nationwide; the
12 consortium includes Alaska, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware,
13 Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana,
14 Mississippi, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North
15 Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and the District of
16 Columbia; and

17 WHEREAS, Today's average Illinois ABLE account balance of
18 approximately \$12,000 is illustrative of the greater economic
19 independence and financial freedom achieved by account owners
20 with disabilities who are no longer trapped in a life of
21 chronic financial insecurity due to asset restrictions imposed
22 by their federal benefits programs; and

1 WHEREAS, August 14, 2025 is National ABLE Savings Day;
2 therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL
4 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we declare August 14,
5 2025 as Illinois ABLE Savings Day; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
7 delivered to the Illinois State Treasurer's Office.