



HR0859

LRB101 21562 MST 72483 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, Illinois is currently facing a global outbreak of  
3 the new coronavirus, a pandemic called COVID-19, which has led  
4 to widespread illness and death around the world, including in  
5 Illinois; and

6           WHEREAS, The Governor of Illinois has issued a series of  
7 emergency executive orders in response to the pandemic,  
8 ordering the shutdown of a wide variety of businesses, places  
9 of religious worship, places of education, and places of  
10 nonprofit enterprise throughout the State; and

11           WHEREAS, These shutdown orders have caused devastating  
12 harm to many Illinoisans who are already affected by the  
13 pandemic; and

14           WHEREAS, To slowly reverse the effects of these devastating  
15 shutdowns and executive orders, the Governor of Illinois has  
16 issued what he and his senior staff call the Restore Illinois  
17 Plan, a plan to "reopen Illinois" on the basis of defined  
18 variables based on data gathered throughout four huge  
19 geographic regions of the State; and

20           WHEREAS, Gathering data on the basis of these huge State  
21 geographic sub-regions will force this urgent work of

1 re-opening to be accomplished much more slowly than it would  
2 otherwise be accomplished, with devastating secondary  
3 consequences to Illinoisans of all groups and social  
4 backgrounds; furthermore, "Restoring Illinois" on the basis of  
5 this mega data is completely dismissive and disrespectful of  
6 the current work being done by Illinoisans of all economic and  
7 social categories who are fighting as members of their local  
8 communities to reduce the rate of COVID-19 viral transmission  
9 from person to person; and

10 WHEREAS, As locally elected lawmakers and members of a  
11 co-equal branch of government, we in the Illinois House of  
12 Representatives can see and appreciate these efforts to fight  
13 COVID-19 up close; it implies no disrespect to the Governor of  
14 Illinois in the midst of the immense burdens he now bears to  
15 suggest that we can see these local efforts as well as he can  
16 or better than he can; and

17 WHEREAS, The Restore Illinois policy constitutes legal  
18 action of immense significance to the people of Illinois; this  
19 being so, this policy should be drafted as a law, debated as a  
20 law, considered as a law by members from all parts of Illinois,  
21 and enacted by legislative majority vote as a law; and

22 WHEREAS, As possessors of local information on the fight  
23 against COVID-19, we, the members of the Illinois House of

1 Representatives, together with our colleagues in the Illinois  
2 Senate, should play a role in the reshaping of Restore  
3 Illinois, so that it truly restores Illinois in fact and not  
4 just in hope; and

5 WHEREAS, Due to the state of the calendar of the Illinois  
6 General Assembly at the time of the preparation of this  
7 resolution, there is ample time prior to the May 31, 2020  
8 adjournment deadline for healthy discussion and debate on this  
9 issue of immense importance to our neighbors and constituents;  
10 therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
12 HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
13 the Restore Illinois plan promulgated by the Governor of  
14 Illinois that is in effect as of May 23, 2020 should be  
15 re-drafted as legislative language and submitted to the  
16 Illinois General Assembly for discussion, debate, and legal  
17 enactment as statutory law; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That we pledge to discuss and debate the Restore  
19 Illinois plan in good faith, and we pledge that the suggested  
20 corrections we will make to it will be based not on political  
21 grandstanding but on informed public-health information about  
22 the situations in our own communities; and be it further

1           RESOLVED, That we pledge that we will stand with the people  
2 of Illinois to reopen our State safely and with the welfare of  
3 all of us in mind, including those among us who are most at  
4 risk from the dangerous virus that is causing this pandemic;  
5 and be it further

6           RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be delivered to  
7 Governor JB Pritzker, Speaker of the House of Representatives  
8 Michael J. Madigan, and President of the Illinois Senate Don  
9 Harmon.