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1 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, All children in Illinois are entitled to the
3 facilities and resources needed for a high-quality education;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Illinois charter public school law does not
6 contain a provision for charter public school facilities
7 funding; and

8 WHEREAS, Charter public schools in this State have limited
9 access to capital funds for facilities from local or state
10 sources, making it difficult to secure adequate and affordable
11 facilities; and

12 WHEREAS, Charter public schools have confronted this
13 problem by either paying rent to operate in a district-run
14 facility or paying for independent facilities out of their
15 general operating funds; and

16 WHEREAS, This produces inequity between charter public
17 schools and district-run schools in terms of the proportion of
18 funds available for direct classroom instruction; and

19 WHEREAS, Eleven jurisdictions (Arizona, California,
20 Colorado, Florida, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Mexico,

1 Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Utah, and Washington D.C.) currently
2 offer facilities support for charter public schools;
3 therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL
5 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
6 CONCURRING HEREIN, that the Task Force on Charter Public School
7 Facilities is created to examine charter public school
8 facilities issues, including the following:

9 (1) An analysis of the current capital funds and
10 facilities provisions in the Illinois Charter Schools Law
11 for the purpose of ensuring equitable access;

12 (2) A comparative analysis of charter public school
13 facilities funding and access across the United States; and

14 (3) Recommendations for ensuring that charter public
15 schools have equitable access to safe and appropriate
16 facilities; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall consist of the
18 following members:

19 (1) one member appointed by the President of the
20 Senate;

21 (2) one member appointed by the Minority Leader of the
22 Senate;

23 (3) one member appointed by the Speaker of the House of
24 Representatives;

1 (4) one member appointed by the Minority Leader of the
2 House of Representatives;

3 (5) the State Superintendent of Education or his or her
4 designee;

5 (6) the chief executive officer of a school district in
6 a city having a population exceeding 500,000 or his or her
7 designee;

8 (7) one member appointed by the Speaker of the House of
9 Representatives, upon recommendation of an organization
10 representing teachers in a school district in a city having
11 a population exceeding 500,000;

12 (8) one member appointed by the President of the
13 Senate, upon recommendation of the largest statewide
14 organization representing teachers;

15 (9) one member appointed by the Governor, upon
16 recommendation of a statewide organization representing
17 charter public schools in this State;

18 (10) a principal of a currently operating,
19 high-performing charter public school in this State,
20 appointed by the State Superintendent of Education;

21 (11) one member appointed by the Minority Leader of the
22 Senate, upon recommendation of the largest charter public
23 school in this State;

24 (12) one member appointed by the Governor who is a
25 representative of a community organization that operates
26 charter public schools, upon recommendation of that

1 community organization;

2 (13) one member appointed by the Minority Leader of the
3 House of Representatives, upon recommendation of an
4 organization representing the business community in this
5 State;

6 (14) one member appointed by the Governor, upon
7 recommendation of an education advocacy group that
8 organizes parents and supports high-quality public-school
9 options, including high-quality public charter schools;

10 (15) one member appointed by the state superintendent
11 representing one of the ten currently operating
12 Commission-approved charter public schools in this State,
13 upon recommendation of the leadership of the
14 Commission-approved charter public schools;

15 (16) one member appointed by the Governor, upon
16 recommendation of a large, non-profit community
17 development financial institution (CDFI) in Illinois that
18 provides or has provided specialized loans, real estate
19 development, and additional forms of financial assistance
20 to charter public schools in this State; and

21 (17) one member appointed by the state superintendent
22 who represents a charter school outside of the City of
23 Chicago; and be it further

24 RESOLVED, That the members of the Task Force shall elect a
25 chairperson from among their membership and that the State

1 Charter School Commission shall provide administrative
2 support; and be it further

3 RESOLVED, That the members of the Task Force shall be
4 appointed within 30 days after the adoption of this resolution
5 and shall begin meeting no later than 30 days after the
6 appointments are finalized; in the event the appointments by
7 the Governor are not made within 30 days after the adoption of
8 this resolution, the State Superintendent shall make such
9 appointments within 15 days of the appointment deadline; and be
10 it further

11 RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall issue a report making
12 recommendations on any changes to State laws with regard to
13 charter public school facilities access on or before January 1,
14 2021, and that the Task Force shall be dissolved upon issuance
15 of this report; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
17 delivered to the Governor, the State Superintendent of
18 Education, the State Charter School Commission, and the Chief
19 Executive Officer of the City of Chicago School District 299.