



SR1190

LRB101 21468 MST 72135 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The spread of COVID-19 has caused a massive
3 disruption to the global, national, and local economies,
4 resulting in unprecedented job loss and an increase in
5 unemployment insurance claims; and

6 WHEREAS, Job losses carry a high price for individuals and
7 the economy at large, which includes workers having less or no
8 income to support their families, workers losing access to
9 health insurance, paid leave, and other employment benefits,
10 and employers having to spend valuable time and money when they
11 rebuild their workforce in the future; and

12 WHEREAS, One existing program designed to keep workers
13 employed but ease the strains of an economic downturn and to
14 speed economic recovery is the Short-Time Compensation (STC)
15 Program, also known as worksharing; and

16 WHEREAS, The STC Program is a lay-off aversion program in
17 which an employer, under a state-approved plan, reduces the
18 hours for a group of workers, and these workers in turn receive
19 a reduced unemployment benefit payment; and

20 WHEREAS, The STC Program would preserve employees' jobs and
21 employers' trained workforces during a disruption to the firm's

1 regular business activity by reducing hours of work for an
2 entire group of affected employees, rather than by laying off
3 some employees while others continue to work full time; and

4 WHEREAS, Research estimates the STC Program could prevent
5 up to 124,000 COVID-19 related layoffs in the State, saving the
6 State over \$1 billion dollars in unemployment insurance
7 payments; and

8 WHEREAS, In 2014, the General Assembly passed legislation
9 authorizing the Department of Employment Security to establish
10 by rule an STC Program, but such program was never established;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, In the wake of the COVID-19 public health crisis,
13 the federal government recognized the benefit and wide support
14 for STC programs during economic downturns and included funding
15 for state STC programs in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and
16 Economic Security Act (CARES Act); and

17 WHEREAS, The CARES Act provides appropriations to
18 temporarily reimburse states for STC program payments under an
19 existing or new STC program for weeks of unemployment ending on
20 or before December 31, 2020; and

21 WHEREAS, The State could receive a grant of up to

1 \$4,187,442 to implement, administer, and promote enrollment in
2 an Illinois STC Program; and

3 WHEREAS, The State should also be entitled to have as much
4 as 100% of the monies paid to the workers of Illinois under the
5 STC Program reimbursed by the federal government, while
6 effectively easing burdens on employers and keeping
7 individuals employed during these difficult times; therefore,
8 be it

9 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL
10 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that the Department of
11 Employment Security is urged to seek certification of Section
12 502 of the Illinois Unemployment Insurance Act from the
13 Secretary of Labor under Section 303 of the Social Security Act
14 and Section 3304 of the Federal Unemployment Tax Act and is
15 urged to apply for the grants made available under Section 2110
16 of the CARES Act before December 31, 2023, in order to
17 implement, administer, and promote the STC Program; and be it
18 further

19 RESOLVED, That the Department of Employment Security is
20 urged to immediately seek an agreement with the United States
21 Department of Labor to enact the STC Program in accordance with
22 Section 502 of the Illinois Unemployment Insurance Act, Section
23 2108 of the CARES Act, and any additional federal rules and

1 regulations to obtain the maximum amount of federal monies
2 available for such program and benefits; and be it further

3 RESOLVED, That the STC Program enacted by the Department of
4 Employment Security should not provide benefits to any
5 seasonal, temporary, or intermittent employee, as is required
6 by federal law, and should not charge any employer for any
7 claims that are 100% federally reimbursable; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
9 delivered to Governor JB Pritzker, Acting Director of the
10 Department of Employment Security Thomas Chan, Secretary of
11 Labor Eugene Scalia, and all members of the Illinois
12 Congressional Delegation.