

HR0745 LRB102 26837 LAW 37862 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The Neutral Site Custody Exchange Funding Act of the Counties Code, 55 ILCS 82, authorizes any county to establish and maintain a fund to defray the expenses thereof by collecting a fee with a statutory maximum of \$8 per civil case filing; and

WHEREAS, Peoria County is charged with making grant disbursements from the fund to one or more qualified not-for-profit organizations for the purpose of providing supervised visitations for the betterment of families in the community; and

WHEREAS, Peoria County has established a relationship with Crittenton Centers, a not-for-profit child welfare organization serving central Illinois since 1892, to house supervised visits for children and parents to re-establish, maintain, and build relationships; and

17 WHEREAS, Peoria County's neutral site custody exchange 18 fund balance has run an annual deficit for seven (7) 19 consecutive years and will soon become depleted; and

20 WHEREAS, Visitation hours have been reduced to 15.5 hours 21 per week; despite this reduction, the fund is still running an

- 1 annual deficit; and
- 2 WHEREAS, Exposure to parental conflict or violence is
- detrimental to positive child development; and
- 4 WHEREAS, The visitation center facilitates positive
- 5 parental contact with children and reduces children's exposure
- 6 to inter-parental conflict around parenting visitation issues;
- 7 the program additionally recognizes that children's needs are
- 8 best met by positive relationships with both the mother and
- 9 father; therefore, be it
- 10 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
- 11 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
- 12 we recognize the importance of and need to maintain healthy
- families in order to foster strong, stable young people.