

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The federal government has established a goal of  
3 reimbursing 40% of the costs of special education incurred by  
4 school districts; it currently provides only 18% of costs  
5 nationally and 14% in Illinois; and

6 WHEREAS, The State of Illinois did not fully reimburse  
7 allowable special education claims in FY03 funding; these  
8 were at a prorated level of 91%; and

9 WHEREAS, The Governor's FY04 budget again calls for a  
10 prorated payment of 91% of special education claims, at a  
11 loss of over \$100 million to school districts; and

12 WHEREAS, Illinois school districts currently spend an  
13 estimated \$1 billion from their general education funds to  
14 meet the unreimbursed costs of special education services  
15 that are mandated by federal and State laws and  
16 administrative rules; and

17 WHEREAS, The Illinois Advisory Council on Children with  
18 Disabilities (IACCD) has both the authority and the expertise  
19 to study and propose special education rules to the State  
20 Board of Education; and

21 WHEREAS, The State Board of Education has both the  
22 statutory authority and duty under the School Code to adopt  
23 special education rules and recommend such rules and rule  
24 changes to the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules as the  
25 State Board deems necessary and proper for the effective,  
26 efficient, and appropriate provisions of special education  
27 services to persons with disabilities; therefore, be it

28 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
29 NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
30 we hereby request that the IACCD and State Board of Education  
31 immediately study existing State rules on special education

1 adopted by the State Board of Education and given effect by  
2 the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules; and be it  
3 further

4 RESOLVED, That the IACCD and the State Board of Education  
5 recommend possible special education rule changes that may  
6 afford regulatory relief, give effect to cost savings, and  
7 reduce administrative burdens and paper work for school  
8 districts without impairing either the provision of  
9 appropriate special education services for persons with  
10 disabilities or the goals of specific individualized  
11 education plans; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That the findings of the IACCD and the State  
13 Board of Education be reported to the General Assembly by the  
14 first day of the next veto session; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be  
16 delivered to the IACCD and the State Board of Education.