



1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The current measure of Adequate Yearly Progress
3 (AYP) under the federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB
4 Act) does not provide for any accounting of students who make
5 significant progress but not enough progress to meet the
6 standard; these students are classified as not succeeding,
7 when, in actuality, in many instances they have progressed
8 beyond a year's growth; and

9 WHEREAS, The measuring of AYP at 47.5% leaves many children
10 behind; and

11 WHEREAS, Using an index to calculate AYP has the potential
12 to address some of the flaws in the NCLB Act; and

13 WHEREAS, An index that measures student progress allows
14 schools to show movement from one performance level to the next
15 and credits improvement in student achievement across
16 different performance levels; and

17 WHEREAS, Prior to a school being sanctioned under the NCLB
18 Act, a pre-AYP classification should be used to determine if
19 the school is successful; and

20 WHEREAS, The pre-AYP classification would be determined by
21 looking at the students as individuals, with the understanding
22 that individuals achieve at different rates; because
23 individual students do make progress, an individual student's
24 progress would be measured to determine if there had been added
25 value to his or her education; and

26 WHEREAS, This measure would include all students: Regular
27 Education students, Special Education students, Limited
28 English Proficient students, and other subgroups; and

1 WHEREAS, This measure would provide accountability to the
2 NCLB Act and, at the same time, provide for a more precise
3 measure of the added value of education that the school has
4 provided; and

5 WHEREAS, Not only will this measure provide schools with a
6 more accurate level of their progress, but it would also
7 provide more specific and accurate data needed to move more
8 students toward the AYP standard; therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
10 NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE
11 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that we urge the U.S. Department of
12 Education to create a pre-AYP classification; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
14 delivered to the U.S. Secretary of Education.