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LRB095 11571 KXB 33374 r

1 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Due to changes in technology, the global
3 marketplace and population demographics, rural residents and
4 communities in Illinois and throughout the country are facing
5 unprecedented challenges; rural life exhibits a far different
6 profile today than only a few decades ago; and

7 WHEREAS, Rural Partners is a forum that links individuals,
8 businesses, organizations, and communities with public and
9 private resources to maximize the quality of life and the
10 economic potential of rural Illinois; and

11 WHEREAS, In 1990, the Governor pledged the continuing
12 support of the State of Illinois in efforts to improve the
13 potential of rural Illinois communities; and

14 WHEREAS, In 1990, the President recognized the importance
15 of coordinating efforts to improve the economic, social, and
16 environmental conditions of rural America and created the
17 President's Council on Rural America, the precursor to the
18 National Rural Development Partnership, and the State Rural
19 Development Councils; and

20 WHEREAS, In 2002, Congress, through the Farm Security and
21 Rural Investment Act, authorized the National Rural

1 Development Partnership and its network of State Rural
2 Development Councils to assume responsibility for coordinating
3 actions among all levels of government and between public and
4 private sector entities serving rural America; and

5 WHEREAS, Rural Partners is recognized by the U.S.
6 Department of Agriculture as one of the 35 State Rural
7 Development Councils nationwide that met the requirements of
8 the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002; and

9 WHEREAS, Rural Partners facilitates private and public
10 partnerships that promote collaboration, encourage informed
11 deliberations, and reduce or eliminate duplicative development
12 efforts that support the State's policymakers efforts to
13 encourage investment in Illinois' rural communities;
14 therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL
16 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
17 CONCURRING HEREIN, that we express support for the mission of
18 Rural Partners of Illinois and call for increased investment in
19 the work of the organization.