



HR0393

LRB096 12738 KXB 26464 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The cost of attending a public university in the United States, even after subtracting out aid and inflation, rose more than 15 percent in the last five years, according to the College Board; and

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WHEREAS, In Illinois alone, the average annual percent increase in tuition and fees from the period 2004-2009 was 79.3%; and

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WHEREAS, At public institutions, tuition has generally been driven up by rising spending on administrators, student support services, and the need to make up for reductions in government subsidies, according to a report issued by the Delta Cost Project, a nonprofit based in Washington, D.C.; and

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WHEREAS, At public institutions especially, the current economic troubles will likely only accelerate the trend of rising prices and classroom cutbacks; and

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WHEREAS, According to a study of tuition and fee trends conducted by the College Board, the largest dollar increase in published in-state four-year college tuition in 2008-09 was \$915 in Illinois; and

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WHEREAS, Under this same study, Illinois' tuition and fee

1 increases ranked fifth overall in the nation at \$10,014; and

2 WHEREAS, Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville  
3 approved at least 98 sabbaticals for this year and the  
4 beginning of next year; professors will be off from 4 1/2  
5 months to a year, most at 100 percent pay; and

6 WHEREAS, Meanwhile, tuition at SIU Edwardsville is going up  
7 6 percent and 4.5 percent at the Carbondale campus; and

8 WHEREAS, Courses not taught mean less revenue for the  
9 school and a lost opportunity for students; and

10 WHEREAS, Even if sabbaticals are important to a professor's  
11 ongoing professional development, this is the wrong time to be  
12 granting so many of them; and

13 WHEREAS, Southern Illinois University President Glenn  
14 Poshard recently said that Southern Illinois University will  
15 get \$14 million less from the State this year than it did in  
16 2002; and

17 WHEREAS, Kent State University in Ohio in February canceled  
18 60 paid sabbaticals for the 2009-2010 school year to save  
19 money; therefore, be it

1           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
2           NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that it  
3           is imperative that universities be fiscally conservative now  
4           and set an example consistent with the business world by either  
5           eliminating sabbaticals or sharply cutting them back; and be it  
6           further

7           RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be  
8           presented to the Illinois Board of Higher Education and the  
9           presidents of all the public universities in Illinois.