



HR1208

LRB096 22226 AJO 41039 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, Recent media reports highlighted these poignant circumstances: that 113 people have been killed in Chicago so far this year and this total is equal to the number of members of the United States armed services killed in Iraq and Afghanistan combined, during the same time period; and

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WHEREAS, The scourge of today's armed violence pays no heed to municipal or county boundary lines, and thus the toll of deaths, serious injuries, and wounded families mounts in cities, towns, and counties across Illinois; and

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WHEREAS, The vigilant efforts of law enforcement, especially in high crime areas, are deeply appreciated, but unfortunately the reality is that local law enforcement resources are stretched thin, the reduced ranks of the State Police are not available to assist local enforcement agencies, and State funding is unavailable to assist municipalities in placing additional police officers on the streets; and

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WHEREAS, The federal government alone has the resources to provide relief to local law enforcement agencies by providing sufficient financial assistance to allow those agencies to hire additional police officers in order to combat lawlessness in high crime areas; and

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1 WHEREAS, This resolution should not be interpreted by
2 anyone as a criticism of local law enforcement efforts, rather
3 this initiative is simply designed to prevent more innocent
4 lives from being lost to senseless violence; and

5 WHEREAS, In the long term, violence and crime lead to a
6 decrease in property values, discourage people from
7 establishing businesses, and hurt existing businesses and thus
8 point to the need for a comprehensive strategy to address the
9 root causes of crime, but right now immediate help is needed
10 because our citizens have a need to feel safe and to be secure,
11 in order that they may reclaim their communities; therefore, be
12 it

13 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
14 NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
15 urge the Congress to pass legislation to provide emergency
16 financial relief that will assist those Illinois communities
17 hardest hit by violent crime provide sufficient police
18 resources to reverse the tide of crime; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
20 delivered to each member of the Illinois congressional
21 delegation.