



HR0767

LRB097 20165 KMW 65571 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The State of Illinois has 11 operating nuclear power reactors and more radioactive spent fuel than any other state in the nation; and

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WHEREAS, An equipment malfunction, fire, human error, natural disaster, or terrorist attack could, separately or in combination, lead to a nuclear catastrophe with potentially devastating human, environmental, and economic consequences for the citizens of Illinois, the region, and nation; and

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WHEREAS, The March 2011 nuclear accident at the Fukushima Daiichi plant in Japan has resulted in significant radiation exposure for countless Japanese citizens, billions of dollars in economic losses, and unimaginable hardship for thousands of Japanese families who have lost their homes and way of life; and

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WHEREAS, All but one of the nuclear power plants in Illinois have reported groundwater leaks; and

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WHEREAS, The LaSalle and Clinton power plants have suffered year-plus outages due to mechanical malfunctions and safety failures; and

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1 WHEREAS, The earthquake risk at the Dresden nuclear power
2 plant has been determined by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission
3 to exceed the capacity of its design; and

4 WHEREAS, Braidwood, Byron, Clinton, Dresden, LaSalle, and
5 Quad Cities nuclear power plants do not periodically review
6 their voluntary but critical Severe Accident Management
7 Guidelines (SAMGs), according to a Nuclear Regulatory
8 Commission audit conducted after the Fukushima disaster; and

9 WHEREAS, According to many independent experts, there are
10 well-documented safety and security shortcomings at the
11 nation's 104 operating nuclear reactors that can and should be
12 corrected to improve public health and safety; and

13 WHEREAS, The residents of Illinois have an inalienable
14 right to have their voices heard regarding possible threats to
15 the health, safety, and general well-being of themselves, their
16 families, their property, and the surrounding environment
17 arising from the State's nuclear power plants; and

18 WHEREAS, The people of Illinois want a safe and secure
19 energy supply for themselves and future generations; and

20 WHEREAS, The Illinois General Assembly takes its
21 responsibility to represent its citizens with utmost

1 seriousness; therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
3 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
4 the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, which has complete
5 jurisdiction over U.S. nuclear power safety and security
6 matters, must ensure that concrete steps are taken now to
7 address serious shortcomings in nuclear plant safety and
8 security that have been evident for years, however no
9 technology can be made perfectly safe, but the Nuclear
10 Regulatory Commission can and must do more to guard against
11 accidents as well as the threat of terrorist attacks on
12 reactors and spent fuel pools; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That the Illinois General Assembly urges the
14 Nuclear Regulatory Commission to do the following: (1) require
15 Illinois nuclear power plant owners to transfer radioactive
16 spent fuel from storage pools to much safer dry casks as soon
17 after 5 years of cooling as possible; (2) ensure that everyone
18 at significant risk from a severe accident, not just people
19 within the arbitrary 10-mile zone currently used for emergency
20 planning, is protected; (3) extend the scope of its regulations
21 to include the prevention and mitigation of severe accidents;
22 and (4) improve protection of the nation's nuclear power plants
23 against terrorist attacks; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That we further direct the House clerk, upon
2 passage of this resolution, to send copies to all 5
3 Commissioners on the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the
4 Governor of Illinois, the Illinois Congressional Delegation,
5 and to the CEO of Exelon, the company that owns all Illinois
6 nuclear power plants, with an accompanying cover letter stating
7 the date this resolution was passed by the General Assembly in
8 the State of Illinois.