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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate recognize
3 Neighborhood Watch programs as an effective means for keeping
4 crime out of neighborhoods; and

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WHEREAS, Under such programs, neighbors and law
6 enforcement agencies have worked together to create an
7 effective crime fighting team; and

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9 WHEREAS, Neighborhood Watch teaches children respect for
10 the law, reinforces community values, and encourages the kind
11 of individual responsibility that makes for healthy, creative
neighborhoods populated by safer and happier citizens; and

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13 WHEREAS, In the aftermath of the September 11, 2001,
14 Neighborhood Watch programs expanded beyond their traditional
15 crime prevention role to help neighborhoods focus on disaster
preparedness, emergency response, and terrorism awareness; and

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17 WHEREAS, Recent tragedies, including school shootings,
18 show that much still remains to be done to ensure the safety of
our schools and our children; and

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20 WHEREAS, Neighborhood Watch programs should play a
significant role in making neighborhood schools safe through

1 the collaboration of citizens and law enforcement; therefore,
2 be it

3 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL
4 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we state our belief
5 that a school crime watch program should be established based
6 on the Neighborhood Watch concept and independently or
7 alternatively incorporated into the Neighborhood Watch program
8 in order to make schools safer for our children; and be it
9 further

10 RESOLVED, That we encourage all citizens of this State to
11 participate in a school crime watch program and to develop
12 partnerships with school authorities and law enforcement to
13 report suspicious activities before they can escalate.