



SJ0028

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1 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Illinois has more units of local government than  
3 any state in the country, numbered at over 7,000; and

4 WHEREAS, The General Assembly finds that consolidation of  
5 units of local government will result in cost-saving for the  
6 taxpayers; and

7 WHEREAS, The General Assembly finds that consolidation of  
8 units of local government shall only occur with no reduction in  
9 the quality of service to taxpayers; and

10 WHEREAS, Lake County would benefit from a study assessing  
11 how specific units of local government may be consolidated or  
12 dissolved; therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL  
14 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
15 CONCURRING HEREIN, that the Working Group on Local Government  
16 Consolidation is created to identify ways to eliminate barriers  
17 to consolidation and resolve certain discrepancies in the  
18 Illinois statutes governing local governments and special  
19 districts in Lake County; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, The Working Group shall consist of the following

1 members:

2 (1) two members of the Senate appointed by the  
3 President of the Senate;

4 (2) two members of the Senate appointed by the Senate  
5 Minority Leader;

6 (3) two members of the House of Representatives  
7 appointed by the Speaker of the House;

8 (4) two members of the House of Representatives  
9 appointed by the Minority Leader of the House;

10 (5) one member selected from recommendations provided  
11 by an association representing counties appointed by the  
12 Governor;

13 (6) one member selected from recommendations provided  
14 by an association representing municipalities appointed  
15 by the Governor;

16 (7) one member selected by recommendations provided by  
17 an association representing townships appointed by the  
18 Governor;

19 (8) one member selected by recommendations provided by  
20 an association representing park districts appointed by  
21 the Governor;

22 (9) one member selected by recommendations provided by  
23 an association representing school districts appointed by  
24 the Governor;

25 (10) one member selected by recommendations provided  
26 by an association representing fire protection districts

1 appointed by the Governor;

2 (11) one member selected by recommendations provided  
3 by an association representing labor unions appointed by  
4 the Governor; and

5 (12) one member who serves as an elected officer of a  
6 local governmental entity in Illinois other than a county,  
7 municipality, township, or park district appointed by the  
8 Governor; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, The Working Group shall meet periodically but no  
10 less than once every 3 months; the group shall meet in  
11 accordance with the requirements of the Open Meetings Act; and  
12 be it further

13 RESOLVED, That the Illinois Department of Revenue shall  
14 provide administrative support and technical assistance to the  
15 Working Group; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, The Working Group shall accept testimony and  
17 evidence from third parties, including comments from the public  
18 at large, in crafting their report to the General Assembly; and  
19 be it further

20 RESOLVED, That Working Group shall submit their report to  
21 the General Assembly no later than October 1, 2016; the report  
22 shall include findings including, but not limited to, the

1 following issues as they occur in Lake County:

2 (1) an assessment of the number of units of local  
3 government and the costs associated with each unit,  
4 including salaries, expenses, and operating costs;

5 (2) an assessment of the units of local government are  
6 engaged in intergovernmental cooperation efforts and what,  
7 if any, cost savings such partnerships have resulted in;

8 (3) recommendations for the elimination of barriers to  
9 consolidation;

10 (4) recommendations for the streamlining or  
11 consolidation of units of local government; and

12 (5) recommendations for intergovernmental cooperation  
13 potential.