

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Research has indicated that up to two years of  
3 participation in post-secondary education helps to  
4 significantly increase the lifetime earnings of all adults;  
5 and

6 WHEREAS, The Illinois Board of Higher Education is the  
7 State of Illinois' planning and coordinating agency for  
8 higher education policy; and

9 WHEREAS, The Illinois Board of Higher Education has  
10 established a goal to increase access and participation in  
11 higher education for all Illinois residents, especially those  
12 among the lowest participating groups including the low  
13 income and Hispanic; and

14 WHEREAS, The Illinois Consortium on International  
15 Education has highlighted the value of student exchanges with  
16 Mexico, particularly for financially needy students; and

17 WHEREAS, Hispanic students are the fastest growing  
18 college student population in Illinois, now numbering over  
19 43,000 students enrolled; and

20 WHEREAS, The Hispanic population of Illinois has grown by  
21 65 percent since the 1990 census; and

22 WHEREAS, A number of undocumented Hispanic students  
23 reside in the State of Illinois and seek higher education  
24 opportunity; and

25 WHEREAS, The residency status and treatment of  
26 undocumented Illinois students has been raised as a potential  
27 barrier for increased participation by Hispanic students in  
28 public post-secondary institutions in Illinois; therefore, be  
29 it

30 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE

1 NINETY-SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
2 we respectfully request that the Illinois Board of Higher  
3 Education undertake an analysis of the relative treatment of  
4 undocumented residents in the admissions process of all  
5 Illinois public colleges and universities; in addition, we  
6 further request that the administrators review past, current,  
7 and future plans to increase participation rates among  
8 Hispanic students in Illinois and offer suggestions for  
9 removing existing barriers to participation in higher  
10 education for both documented and undocumented Hispanic  
11 students; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That the Illinois Board of Higher Education  
13 report its findings to the Illinois House of Representatives  
14 by December 1, 2002.