

SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The National Voter Registration Act of 1993 mandates that states enact legislation necessary to implement voter registration procedures by January 1, 1995; and

WHEREAS, While the complete cost to state and local governments in Illinois for this unfunded federal mandate are unknown, estimates vary from several million dollars to several hundred million dollars; and

WHEREAS, As of November 15, 1994, the state legislatures of California, Indiana, Michigan, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Kansas, Mississippi, New Mexico, Texas, Montana, and Nevada have chosen not to enact this unfunded federal mandate; and

WHEREAS, Illinois has an established voter registration program at driver's license facilities, and a progressive deputy registrar program that already provides numerous opportunities for persons to register to vote; and

WHEREAS, Illinois currently has strict requirements that limit abuses in the registration process and uphold the integrity of the State's electoral process; and

WHEREAS, It will be more than 15 months until Illinois has a scheduled federal election; therefore be it

RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE EIGHTY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we urge Congress to extend the deadline of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to January 1, 1996, to allow the States to enact reasonable implementing legislation, to allow Congress to reconsider the requirements of that Act through modifications that recognize the diversity of state measures that can achieve the national goal of increased voter registration, and to find a source of funding to assist states with the new costs associated with the National Voter Registration Act;

1 and be it further

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3 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be 54
4 presented to the Speaker of the United States House of 55
5 Representatives, the Majority Leader of the United States 56
6 Senate, and each member of the Illinois congressional
delegation.

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