



SR0971

LRB103 40524 ECR 73021 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, Voting is one of the central tenets of our
3 democracy and a fundamental right of American citizens; and

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WHEREAS, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act
5 requires state and local governments to ensure that people
6 with disabilities have a full and equal opportunity to vote;
7 and

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WHEREAS, Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of
9 1973 prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in
10 any program or activity that receives federal financial
11 assistance, including federal elections; and

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WHEREAS, The Help America Vote Act of 2002 requires
13 jurisdictions to make voting systems accessible in a manner
14 that provides the same opportunity to voters with disabilities
15 for access and participation as is provided to non-disabled
16 voters; and

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WHEREAS, The U.S. Election Assistance Commission's 2021
18 report on Disability and Voting Accessibility in the 2020
19 Elections revealed that 11% of voters with disabilities had
20 trouble voting in 2020; and

1 WHEREAS, Public Act 102-819 requires the State Board of
2 Elections to provide a certified remote accessible vote by
3 mail system through which a vote by mail ballot can be
4 delivered by electronic transmission to voters with print
5 disabilities and through which voters with print disabilities
6 are able to mark and verify their ballots using assistive
7 technology; and

8 WHEREAS, Public Act 102-819 requires election authorities
9 to permit voters with a print disability to receive and mark
10 their vote by mail ballots through the certified remote
11 accessible vote by mail system provided by the State Board of
12 Elections or through a certified remote accessible vote by
13 mail system provided by the election authority itself; and

14 WHEREAS, Illinois voters with a print disability may apply
15 for a single accessible vote by mail ballot or may apply to
16 permanently receive accessible vote by mail ballots so a voter
17 with a print disability may receive and mark their vote by mail
18 ballots electronically; therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL
20 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we express support for
21 ensuring that voters with a print disability may exercise
22 their right to vote in a manner that is full and equal; and be
23 it further

1 RESOLVED, That we urge election authorities in the State
2 to conduct outreach to voters with a print disability to
3 inform these voters of the options available to them to
4 exercise their right to vote privately and independently.