

14-R-98

A RESOLUTION

**Authorizing the City Manager to Sign a Joint Resolution
for Equitable State Funding of Evanston/Skokie Schools**

WHEREAS, the Boards of Education of Districts 65 and 202, the Evanston City Council, the Evanston Chamber of Commerce, and the Evanston Township High School Student Council have determined that House Bill 452 is detrimental to Evanston schools by decreasing state funding; and

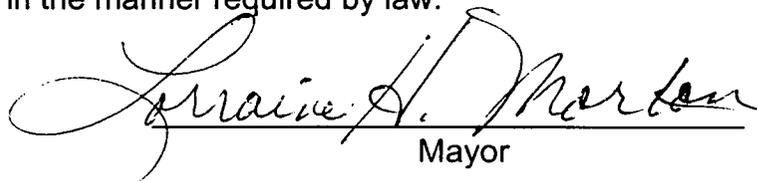
WHEREAS, the Boards of Education of Districts 65 and 202, the Evanston City Council, the Evanston Chamber of Commerce, and the Evanston Township High School Student Council request the Illinois Legislature to pass legislation to remedy the loss of local control embodied in House Bill 452; and

WHEREAS, the Boards of Education of Districts 65 and 202, the Evanston City Council, the Evanston Chamber of Commerce, and the Evanston Township High School Student Council have proposed a Joint Resolution for Equitable State Funding for Evanston/Skokie Schools,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED By The City Council of Evanston, Cook County, Illinois:

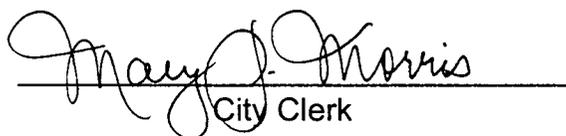
SECTION 1: That the City Manager is hereby authorized and directed to sign, on behalf of the City of Evanston, a Joint Resolution for Equitable State Funding of Evanston/Skokie Schools attached as Exhibit A.

SECTION 2: That this Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after the date of its passage and approval in the manner required by law.



Mayor

ATTEST:



City Clerk

Adopted: March 23, 1998

**JOINT RESOLUTION FOR EQUITABLE STATE FUNDING
OF EVANSTON/SKOKIE SCHOOLS**

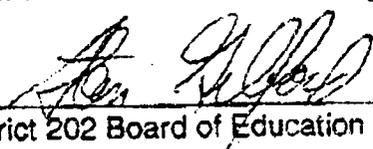
We the Boards of Education of Districts 65 and 202, the Evanston City Council, the Evanston Chamber of Commerce, and the Evanston Township High School Student Council do hereby submit the following resolution:

House Bill 452 (HB 452) contains a one year hold harmless provision which freezes State support of District 65 and District 202 at the 1997-98 level. Taxpayers in Evanston and Skokie are paying 92% of the cost of funding Evanston Township High School (ETHS) and 80% of the cost of funding District 65 schools. The possibility of reducing State support of Evanston/Skokie schools while increasing the taxes paid by Evanston/Skokie residents calls for immediate redress. Therefore, we strongly encourage you to propose, support and pass a permanent hold harmless provision which increases with the CPI.

The continued deficiencies in the State's share of special education funding create hardship for District 65 and District 202. Therefore, we strongly encourage you to draft legislation to end the practice of the proration of special education categoricals. Further, we encourage you to increase the personnel reimbursement from \$8,000 to at least \$9,300 and to increase the amount for extraordinary claims students from \$2,000 to at least \$2,500 over a two year period.

Under HB 452 the State of Illinois continues to allocate poverty funds using the inaccurate and discredited Title I numbers. 29.5% of ETHS students and 36% of District 65 students receive free or reduced lunch. Therefore, we encourage you to use the free or reduced lunch numbers which present an accurate picture of poverty in our community. Please make the money allocated for Illinois' children suffering from the effects of poverty available to Evanston/Skokie students.

HB 452 contains many examples of loss of local control. Please propose, support and pass legislation to remedy this. Locally elected school boards are more responsive to the needs of Evanston/Skokie students than the State Board of Education or the Illinois State Legislature.

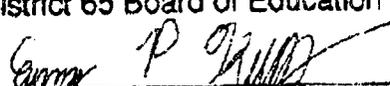


District 202 Board of Education

Evanston City Council

District 65 Board of Education

Evanston Chamber of Commerce



ETHS Student Council