

SENATE RESOLUTION No. ____

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A SENATE RESOLUTION urging the legislative council to review Indiana statutes relative to undeveloped, underdeveloped and/or poorly maintained property in areas of urban blight and assign this review to the Commission on State Tax and Financing Policy.

**HOWARD, BORST, MILLER,
CLARK, BREAUX, ROGERS,
SMITH S**

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on



Introduced

First Regular Session 113th General Assembly (2003)

SENATE RESOLUTION

MR. PRESIDENT:

I offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

A SENATE RESOLUTION urging the legislative council to review Indiana statutes relative to undeveloped, underdeveloped and/or poorly maintained property in areas of urban blight and assign this review to the Commission on State Tax and Financing Policy.

Whereas, there are many cities in Indiana faced with urban blight as a consequence of undeveloped, underdeveloped and/or poorly maintained property.

Whereas, many of the owners of this property are absentee landowners who have no interest in development the property they own or in the development of the community within which they own such property.

Whereas, in 2000, the U.S. Census Bureau determined that Indianapolis, Indiana has 35,001 vacant properties, many of which are owned by absentee landlords.

Whereas, the Marion County Board of Health is required to secure and board up homes owned by absentee landlords who did not take care of their properties to ensure the safety of the neighborhood.

Whereas, according to a December, 2000 study of The Brookings Institution, “the reuse of land is critical to the economic growth and recovery of a diverse range of urban areas.”

Whereas, according to the March 6, 2003 editorial of the Indianapolis Star, “barring a modification of state property laws, gradual

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change is all neighborhoods can realistically expect. The process of legally disposing of blighted housing is a lengthy one. Resolving decades of neglect and demographic upheaval requires time and dedication.”

Whereas, this matter should be referred to the Commission on State Tax and Financing Policy to study Indiana statutes regarding property tax administration to determine what can be accomplished with state law to help remediate urban areas and promote economic development.

Be it resolved by the Senate of the
General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

SECTION 1. That the legislative council is urged to review Indiana statutes relative to undeveloped, underdeveloped and/or poorly maintained property in areas of urban blight and assign this review to the Commission on State Tax and Financing Policy.

