

# House Concurrent Resolution No. 48

## 94TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

5185L.011

2       **Whereas**, DNA technology is increasingly vital to ensuring accuracy and fairness  
3 in the criminal justice system, but is not yet considered a routine tool for criminal identification  
4 by law enforcement; and

5       **Whereas**, over 50,000 law enforcement investigations have already been aided  
6 nationwide because of DNA matches made through the FBI's Combined DNA Index System  
7 (CODIS), bringing justice to victims and removing criminals from the streets; and

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9       **Whereas**, the Innocence Project has used DNA in over 200 cases to exonerate  
10 persons who were wrongfully convicted of crimes; and

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12       **Whereas**, the State of Missouri and other states throughout the nation have  
13 significantly expanded their DNA programs to include a growing number of convicted and  
14 arrested felons to match against unsolved crimes; and

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16       **Whereas**, the demand for DNA testing in both violent and non-violent crimes has  
17 continued to increase as the reliability of this evidence is proven; and

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19       **Whereas**, many laboratories still maintain DNA backlogs of six months or longer  
20 and are unable to meet the growing demand for DNA testing despite funding commitments from  
21 state and local governments; and

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23       **Whereas**, the Debbie Smith DNA backlog grant program has permitted state and  
24 local governments an opportunity to begin to maximize the full potential of forensic DNA  
25 through backlog reduction, but much work remains to be done:

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27       **Now, therefore, be it resolved** that the members of the House of  
28 Representatives of the Ninety-fourth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the Senate