



HR0809

LRB100 20362 MST 35656 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The opioid epidemic is the most significant public
3 health and public safety crisis in Illinois; and

4 WHEREAS, Opioid overdoses have killed nearly 11,000 people
5 since 2008 and have now become the leading cause of death
6 nationwide for people under the age of 50; and

7 WHEREAS, According to the United States Drug Enforcement
8 Administration (DEA), there has been a dramatic increase in the
9 availability of dangerous synthetic opioids and the drug
10 Fentanyl constitutes a large majority of such synthetic
11 opioids; and

12 WHEREAS, Fentanyl is a powerful Schedule II narcotic and
13 can cause serious negative health effects, including
14 respiratory depression at very low doses and can even be
15 lethal; and

16 WHEREAS, According to the DEA, Fentanyl, including its
17 synthetic forms, has similar effects on the human body as
18 morphine but is 50-100 times more potent than morphine; and

19 WHEREAS, Illicit Fentanyl, Fentanyl-related substances,
20 and other synthetically made opioids resemble powerful drugs,

1 such as heroin or cocaine and can be found as powder, pills,
2 capsules, liquid, and on blotted paper; and

3 WHEREAS, Fentanyl exposure can occur via injection, oral
4 ingestion, contact with mucous membranes, inhalation, and
5 through the skin; and

6 WHEREAS, Because of its potency and its affinity for
7 absorption into the human body, synthetic Fentanyl poses a real
8 danger to first responders, public health officials, and law
9 enforcement; and

10 WHEREAS, The DEA has issued warnings that law enforcement's
11 accidental exposure to synthetic Fentanyl can occur during the
12 execution of search or arrest warrants, the purchase of
13 Fentanyl during undercover operations, the processing of drug
14 evidence containing Fentanyl or Fentanyl-related substances,
15 or the processing of non-drug evidence which could be
16 contaminated with Fentanyl or its analogues; and

17 WHEREAS, It is imperative that law enforcement, public
18 health officials, and first responders be knowledgeable about
19 the situations in which exposure to Fentanyl or its analogues
20 can occur and how to prevent such exposure; and

21 WHEREAS, To reduce their exposure to Fentanyl or its

1 analogues, law enforcement, public health officials and first
2 responders must follow their applicable standard safe
3 operating procedures and use personal protective equipment to
4 protect themselves from the dangerous effects of Fentanyl or
5 its analogues; therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
7 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
8 urge all first responders, law enforcement, and public health
9 officials to be educated about the dangers of exposure to
10 Fentanyl or its analogues; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That we urge all Illinois first responders, law
12 enforcement, and public health officials to take proper
13 precautions to avoid potential overdose of Fentanyl or its
14 analogues.