



HJ0056

LRB101 11918 MST 58976 r

1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The Constitution of the State of Illinois asserts  
3 that the public policy of the State and the duty of each person  
4 is to provide and maintain a healthful environment for the  
5 benefit of this and future generations; and

6 WHEREAS, The General Assembly shall provide by law for the  
7 implementation and enforcement of this public policy; and

8 WHEREAS, Ethylene oxide is a known carcinogen and its  
9 discharge and emission into the atmosphere in high  
10 concentrations constitutes a threat to public health and  
11 safety; and

12 WHEREAS, The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and  
13 Illinois Environmental Protection Agency are charged with the  
14 enforcement of our federal and State environmental laws and  
15 standards to ensure pollutants or discharges from Illinois  
16 businesses do not put the health and welfare of Illinois  
17 residents and workers in jeopardy; and

18 WHEREAS, The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
19 completed multiple air sampling and tests around the  
20 Sterigenics facility in Willowbrook that discovered heightened  
21 levels of ethylene oxide in the air around the facility; and

1           WHEREAS, Following the results of those tests, the Illinois  
2           Environmental Protection Agency issued a seal order preventing  
3           the use of ethylene oxide by a facility in Willowbrook on  
4           February 15, 2019; and

5           WHEREAS, Lake County has two facilities currently  
6           permitted to emit and discharge ethylene oxide; and

7           WHEREAS, No state or federal agency has yet to conduct  
8           ambient air quality or sampling tests around the Lake County  
9           facilities that emit and discharge ethylene oxide; therefore,  
10          be it

11          RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
12          HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE  
13          SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that we urge the U.S. Environmental  
14          Protection Agency to consider the serious concerns of residents  
15          of Lake County regarding the recent ethylene oxide emissions  
16          and the subsequent environmental and public health threat posed  
17          to the people of Illinois; and be it further

18          RESOLVED, That we urge the U.S. Environmental Protection  
19          Agency to conduct ambient air monitoring and testing in and  
20          around the two known facilities emitting or discharging  
21          ethylene oxide in Lake County; and be it further

1           RESOLVED, That we urge the Illinois Environmental  
2 Protection Agency to take whatever actions possible to assist  
3 in the ambient air monitoring and protection of the public in  
4 regards to the environmental and health risks posed by ethylene  
5 oxide emissions in Lake County.