



HR0758

LRB102 26853 ECR 37896 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The Covid-19 pandemic has created a hidden
3 epidemic of deferred care; and

4 WHEREAS, The widespread patient hesitancy to return to
5 healthcare services combined with closed and limited
6 availability of healthcare services during the pandemic has
7 resulted in underdiagnosis and a gap in care, with missed
8 opportunities to provide timely and appropriate treatments,
9 consequently leading to increased chronic disability and
10 mortality; and

11 WHEREAS, The long-term impact of the collateral negative
12 effects of pandemic-related deferred care is staggering and
13 may be felt for a generation; and

14 WHEREAS, A study reported in the New York Times found that
15 blood pressure readings increased significantly from April
16 2020 through December 2020 compared with the same period in
17 2019; and

18 WHEREAS, Another study showed that while test volume for
19 non-prescribed fentanyl fell during the early months of the
20 pandemic and through 2020, the percentage of positive test
21 results rose indicating that patients with Opioid Use Disorder

1 were underdiagnosed during the early months of the pandemic
2 and through 2020; and

3 WHEREAS, The pandemic has disrupted the utilization of
4 women's preventive health services and may be associated with
5 increased disparities in access to these services; a
6 University of Michigan study found that rates of breast cancer
7 screenings, cervical cancer screenings, and sexually
8 transmitted infection screenings all significantly declined in
9 2020 compared with 2019; and

10 WHEREAS, Another study showed new diagnoses of eight
11 common types of cancer declined by 46 percent during most of
12 the first 13 months of the pandemic, and, according to data
13 presented during the American Urological Association's 2021
14 Virtual Experience, weekly prostate cancer screening rates
15 declined by as much as 43 percent during the COVID-19
16 pandemic; therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
18 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
19 we declare March of 2022 as Back to Care Month in the State of
20 Illinois to educate and promote patients to return to a
21 routine of preventative care and screening.