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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, School nurses are the healthcare experts in
3 schools and are often the only healthcare provider that many
4 students encounter; and

5 WHEREAS, School nurses have demonstrated their essential
6 role in the school system as they mitigated the impact of the
7 COVID-19 pandemic; and

8 WHEREAS, School nurses have been on the front lines of
9 bridging health care and education, providing care
10 coordination, and advocating for quality student-centered
11 care; and

12 WHEREAS, Students turn to the school nurse for both
13 physical and emotional safety needs; and

14 WHEREAS, School nurses are often the first to identify a
15 medical issue that is impacting a student's learning; and

16 WHEREAS, School nurses promote access to services in
17 underserved communities, often times not only providing
18 services to individual school children but also serving as a
19 resource to students and families in addressing social
20 determinants of health such as homelessness; and

1 WHEREAS, According to the National Survey on Children's
2 Health, 40% of school aged children have at least one chronic
3 health condition, which are often discovered and managed daily
4 by school nurses; and

5 WHEREAS, There are no requirements for school districts to
6 employ school nurses, and therefore, the hiring requirements
7 and parameters around the roles of school nurses vary widely;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, This lack of formalized hiring practices and
10 parameters equates to a lack of information about schools that
11 hire school nurses, such as how school nurses are utilized and
12 the number of schools that school nurses are required to
13 oversee; and

14 WHEREAS, The Illinois State Board of Education provides
15 oversight to schools in Illinois and already collects data
16 from these schools; and

17 WHEREAS, The Illinois State Board of Education has a
18 department that focuses on coordinated reporting, data
19 collection, data implementation sharing, and analyzing data
20 for policy and strategic planning; therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
2 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
3 we recognize the vital role of school nurses in providing
4 health care to the students of Illinois; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That we urge the Illinois State Board of
6 Education to partner with the Illinois Association of School
7 Nurses to complete a School Nursing Capacity Study in
8 Illinois; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That we recommend that the School Nursing
10 Capacity Study in Illinois should include, but not be limited
11 to, ascertaining who is providing health care to school
12 children in Illinois schools, determining credentials of the
13 nurses currently providing care, determining the number of
14 schools in which each nurse is required to provide healthcare
15 services in each school district, and determining what
16 policies are in place to provide healthcare services and by
17 whom if a school nurse is not present in the building; and be
18 it further

19 RESOLVED, That we recognize that the purpose of this study
20 is to provide more in-depth data with the overall goal of
21 utilizing the data to develop a model for healthcare services
22 provided in schools that can address specific needs of each
23 community, focusing on students that do not have access to

1 care outside of the schools; and be it further

2 RESOLVED, That we urge the Illinois State Board of
3 Education to report its findings to the General Assembly no
4 later than January 10, 2023.