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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, Postpartum depression (PPD) is a condition that describes a range of physical and emotional changes that some mothers experience after having a baby; and

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WHEREAS, Postpartum depression can happen a few days or even months after childbirth; PPD affects between 10 to 28 percent of women; it can happen after the birth of any child; a woman can have feelings similar to the baby blues, but she feels them much more strongly; when a woman's ability to function is affected, it is a sure sign that she needs to see her health care provider right away; and

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WHEREAS, Low thyroid levels can cause symptoms that can feel like depression, such as mood swings, fatigue, agitation, insomnia, and anxiety; thyroid levels can drop sharply after birth which leads to postpartum depression; and

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WHEREAS, The Melanie Stokes Foundation Inc. is a Chicago-based nonprofit organization that provides support for those affected by PPD and strives to increase public awareness on how to recognize symptoms of PPD; and

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WHEREAS, Making citizens aware of postpartum psychosis, a very serious mental illness which occurs in about one in 1,000 new mothers can prompt quick treatment and medication; therefore, be it

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RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we support the efforts of the Melanie Stokes Foundation; and be it further

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RESOLVED, That we urge the Department of Public Health to institute a program to heighten public awareness of PPD and the

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1 availability of resources that can help those with PPD; and be  
2 it further

3       RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
4 presented to the Melanie Stokes Foundation Inc. and to the  
5 Director of Public Health.