



HJ0067

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1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Influenza vaccination is the primary method for
3 preventing influenza and its severe complications; and

4 WHEREAS, According to the Advisory Committee on
5 Immunization Practices (ACIP) of the U.S. Centers for Disease
6 Control and Prevention (CDC), adults age 65 and older and
7 children age 6 to 59 months are the most at risk for
8 influenza-related complications; and

9 WHEREAS, While estimated rates of influenza-associated
10 hospitalizations have varied substantially by age group in
11 studies conducted during different influenza epidemics, the
12 hospitalization rates are highest among children age one and
13 younger and are comparable to rates reported among persons age
14 65 and over; and

15 WHEREAS, According to the ACIP, the primary option for
16 reducing the effect of influenza is the influenza vaccine and
17 that vaccinating persons at high risk is the most effective
18 means of reducing the effect of influenza; and

19 WHEREAS, While vaccination coverage for at-risk adults can
20 be increased by administering vaccines to persons during
21 hospitalizations, routine health care visits, or at nursing

1 homes, there is no reliable immunization treatment for children
2 other than parental vigilance and day care intervention; and

3 WHEREAS, The education of parents, day care
4 administrators, and physicians as to the importance of
5 immunizing children in the at-risk age group is an important
6 public policy endeavor for the State of Illinois; therefore, be
7 it

8 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
9 NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE
10 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that we urge the Department of Public
11 Health to develop a program to educate parents, day care
12 administrators, and physicians about the health benefits of
13 influenza immunization for children age 6 months to 59 months;
14 and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That in effectuating this educational program,
16 the Department of Public Health work closely with the
17 Department of Children and Family Services in sharing its
18 website information, printed materials, or any other
19 informational material reflecting the immunization
20 recommendations made available by the ACIP and the CDC; and be
21 it further

22 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be sent to the

1 Director of Public Health and the Director of Children and
2 Family Services.