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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 103

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WHEREAS, The U.S. Centers for Disease and Prevention (CDC) have identified Multidrug-Resistant Organisms (MROs) as a national threat to public health. These include methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA), vancomycin-resistant (VRE), and certain gram-negative bacilli (GNB) which are microorganisms, predominantly bacteria, that are resistant to one or more classes of antimicrobial agents. These highly resistant organisms deserve special attention because options for treatment are often extremely limited. The 95th General Assembly enacted House Bill 192 (PA 95-282) and Senate Bill 233 (PA 95-312) that established MRSA prevention and control programs for licensed hospitals and mental health and developmental disabilities facilities operated by the Department of Human Services, and required the Department of Public Health to publicize guidelines for reducing the incidence of Multidrug-Resistant Organisms (MDROs), including MRSA, to health care providers, health care facilities, public health departments, prisons, jails, and the general public; and to provide periodic reports and updates to public officials, health professionals, and the general public statewide regarding new developments or procedures concerning prevention and management of infections due to MDROs. Additional control and prevention measures are under consideration and may be required to ensure public safety; and

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1           WHEREAS, It is imperative to protect the health and safety  
2 of the public by educating the citizens of this State about the  
3 dangers of MDROs; therefore be it

4           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
5 NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE  
6 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that there is created in the  
7 Department of Public Health the Joint Task Force on MDRO  
8 Education, which shall be charged with the task of spearheading  
9 the effort to educate parents, students, teachers, and school  
10 administrators about the dangers of MDROs and ways to prevent  
11 the spread of diseases related to these organisms; and be it  
12 further

13           RESOLVED, That the Joint Task Force shall consist of 9  
14 members, all of whom shall be appointed by the Director of  
15 Public Health; and be it further

16           RESOLVED, That the Director shall choose one member  
17 representing each of the following groups: nurses, specialists  
18 in the field of infection control and epidemiology, education  
19 organizations, school principals, health care consumers, the  
20 Illinois Department of Public Health, hospitals, doctors, and  
21 public health associations; and be it further

1           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
2 delivered to the Director of Public Health.