



HR1001

LRB095 16801 DRJ 42838 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, Cervical cancer is a major problem among older women, who deserve access to the best preventive strategies available; women age 65 and older account for nearly 20 percent of all new cervical cancer cases and more than 35 percent of all deaths from the disease, according to the National Cancer Institute; the American Cancer Society reports that 11,150 women will be diagnosed with cervical cancer and 3,670 women will die of the disease; and

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WHEREAS, Cervical cancer is caused by the human papillomavirus (HPV); studies suggest that HPV testing as part of screening offers women a better level of protection against cervical cancer; and

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WHEREAS, Cervical cancer can be a devastating disease, yet it is preventable; knowing whether an older woman has HPV could help determine whether and how often she should continue to be screened; this can help save older women from the anguish of a cervical cancer diagnosis; and

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WHEREAS, The Pap test, the traditional method of screening for cervical cancer, is approximately 50 to 85 percent accurate, depending upon the type of test used; an HPV test was approved by the FDA in 2003 for use with a Pap test in women age

1 30 and older; research shows that this approach increases to  
2 nearly 100 percent a clinician's ability to identify women who  
3 are at increased risk for cervical cancer and require more  
4 diligent follow-up care; and

5 WHEREAS, HPV testing is included in cervical cancer  
6 screening guidelines from the American College of  
7 Obstetricians and Gynecologists and the American Cancer  
8 Society; most private insurance companies and state Medicaid  
9 programs already cover HPV testing as part of routine cervical  
10 cancer screening for women age 30 and older; and

11 WHEREAS, H.R. 4055, the Medicare Cervical Cancer Screening  
12 and Detection Coverage Act of 2007, has been introduced in  
13 Congress; the legislation would require Medicare to cover  
14 testing for HPV as part of cervical cancer screening for older  
15 women; therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
17 NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
18 urge the United States Congress to pass H.R. 4055, the Medicare  
19 Cervical Cancer Screening and Detection Coverage Act of 2007;  
20 and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
22 forwarded to each member of the Illinois Congressional

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1 delegation.