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HOUSE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The Illinois Department of Human Services (DHS) has notified the Illinois Alcoholism and Drug Dependence Association (IADDA) that all GRF funds for addiction prevention and treatment will be eliminated as of March 15, 2011; and

WHEREAS, Providers of addiction prevention and treatment services have been notified of these impending cuts with less than 30 days' notice; and

WHEREAS, Nearly 80% of the clients in the addiction treatment system are not eligible for Medicaid services and will not be able to access addiction treatment; and

WHEREAS, These cuts will result in an immediate loss of services for 55,830 treatment clients, and 229,536 youth will lose prevention services; and

WHEREAS, These cuts will shut down the State-funded addiction prevention and treatment system, resulting in a loss of more than 5,000 jobs; and

WHEREAS, The residual impact to the State's economy far exceeds the immediate impact that will occur on March 15, 2011; and

1 WHEREAS, 5,000 new unemployed staff will be an additional
2 burden on the State's unemployment system; and

3 WHEREAS, The Alcoholism and Other Drug Abuse and Dependency
4 Act mandates that DHS design, coordinate, and fund a
5 comprehensive and coordinated community-based and culturally
6 and gender-appropriate array of services throughout the State
7 for the prevention, intervention, treatment, and
8 rehabilitation of alcohol and other drug abuse and dependency
9 that is accessible and addresses the needs of at-risk or
10 addicted individuals and their families; and

11 WHEREAS, The Alcoholism and Other Drug Abuse and Dependency
12 Act mandates that offenders have the right to an assessment and
13 can be sentenced to treatment services in the community instead
14 of being sent to prison; and

15 WHEREAS, Since 69% of African-Americans and 76% of Latinos
16 rely on publicly funded treatment, these cuts will
17 disproportionately affect minority communities; and

18 WHEREAS, These cuts will force Illinoisans with no access
19 to addiction services to turn to local hospital emergency
20 departments flooding emergency rooms, increasing wait times,
21 and swelling medical costs; and

1 WHEREAS, Local law enforcement will bear the burden of
2 coping with Illinoisans who need treatment but will instead end
3 up in local jails or homeless because they have nowhere to
4 turn; and

5 WHEREAS, Already overburdened local justice and social
6 service systems will become overwhelmed with people locked out
7 of critical treatment services; and

8 WHEREAS, The average cost of addiction treatment in
9 Illinois is \$4,425 per person; the average annual cost of
10 incarceration is \$21,911 per person; and

11 WHEREAS, Without funding for addiction prevention and
12 treatment, costs associated with corrections will drastically
13 increase; and

14 WHEREAS, Cuts will escalate domestic violence, child
15 abuse, accidents, and fatalities; and

16 WHEREAS, DHS estimates 9,000 to 10,000 Illinois residents
17 die each year from accidental injuries and 40% of these deaths
18 are related to the use of alcohol; and

19 WHEREAS, \$907 million (73%) of the total spending on child

1 welfare is spent as a result of untreated addiction; and

2 WHEREAS, Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder costs the State of
3 Illinois an estimated \$329 million dollars annually or \$27
4 million per month; and

5 WHEREAS, DHS estimates the annual Illinois statewide
6 economic costs associated with alcohol, tobacco, and other
7 drug-related mortality is in excess of \$3.5 billion; and

8 WHEREAS, DHS estimates that over 60% of all State-funded
9 addiction prevention programs are classified as
10 evidence-based; and

11 WHEREAS, DHS has found the following outcomes are achieved
12 in the prevention system:

13 (1) Increased alcohol, tobacco, and other drug
14 resistance skills among program participants;

15 (2) Increased perceptions that alcohol, tobacco, and
16 other drug use is harmful;

17 (3) Increased drug knowledge;

18 (4) Delayed alcohol use;

19 (5) Delayed intent to use alcohol and inhalants;

20 (6) Decreased perceptions that peers are using illicit
21 drugs;

22 (7) Decreased perceptions that adults are using

1 illicit drugs; and

2 WHEREAS, DHS has implemented a system of performance-based
3 contracts for addiction treatment that focuses on client
4 engagement, retention in treatment, and continuity of care; and

5 WHEREAS, DHS has data confirming that more than 97% of all
6 clients discharged from Illinois' treatment system are
7 arrest-free as opposed to the national average of only 89% at
8 discharge; and

9 WHEREAS, DHS has data confirming that more than 81% of all
10 clients discharged from Illinois' treatment system are
11 alcohol-free at discharge as compared to the national average
12 of 80%; and

13 WHEREAS, DHS has data confirming that more than 74% of all
14 clients discharged from Illinois' treatment system are
15 drug-free at discharge, which is the same as the national
16 average; and

17 WHEREAS, For every dollar spent on prevention, states save
18 up to \$10 in treatment and recovery costs alone; and

19 WHEREAS, For every dollar spent on treatment, the State
20 saves up to \$14 in healthcare, criminal justice, and child

1 welfare costs; therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
3 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
4 the General Assembly deems that these draconian cuts
5 eliminating all non-Medicaid addiction treatment and
6 prevention will decimate the Illinois system and are a
7 violation of Section 25-5 of the Alcoholism and Other Drug
8 Abuse and Dependency Act which provides that DHS "shall
9 develop, fund and implement a comprehensive, statewide
10 community-based system for the provision of a full array of
11 intervention, treatment and aftercare for persons suffering
12 from alcohol and other drug abuse and dependency"; and be it
13 further

14 RESOLVED, That the elimination of State funding for
15 addiction treatment and prevention shall be immediately
16 halted; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution shall be
18 delivered to the Governor and the Secretary of the Department
19 of Human Services.