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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Osteoporosis is a disease characterized by low
3 bone mass, structural deterioration of bone, and increased
4 susceptibility to fractures, especially in older women; and

5 WHEREAS, Osteoporosis is a major public health threat for
6 an estimated 52 million Americans; and

7 WHEREAS, One in every 2 women and one in every 4 men over
8 the age of 50 will be affected by osteoporosis and low bone
9 density; and

10 WHEREAS, Annual osteoporosis costs for America's
11 healthcare system top \$18 billion and will double by 2050, as
12 America's population ages; and

13 WHEREAS, Osteoporosis is responsible for 1.5 million bone
14 fractures annually; and

15 WHEREAS, Osteoporosis is often thought of as a disease more
16 prevalent amongst elders; in actuality, bone health is a
17 concern for people of all ages; and

18 WHEREAS, Substantial risk of osteoporosis has been
19 reported in persons of all ethnic backgrounds; and

1 WHEREAS, Osteoporosis is a preventable and treatable
2 disease; and

3 WHEREAS, Building strong bones throughout childhood and
4 adolescence can be the best defense against developing
5 osteoporosis later in life; and

6 WHEREAS, Almost 90% of bone mass is acquired by age 18 in
7 women and by age 20 in men; and

8 WHEREAS, Only one in 3 Americans receive enough calcium in
9 their daily diet, a problem which is especially severe for
10 children and adolescents in critical years of bone development;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, Optimum bone health and prevention of
13 osteoporosis can be maximized by a balanced diet rich in
14 calcium and vitamin D, weight-bearing exercise, and a healthy
15 lifestyle with no smoking or excessive alcohol intake; and

16 WHEREAS, Osteoporosis is often called the "silent disease"
17 because bone loss can occur without symptoms and may not be
18 detected until a fracture occurs; and

19 WHEREAS, A bone mineral density test can be performed to

1 identify osteoporosis and determine the risk for fractures and
2 the severity of the disease; and

3 WHEREAS, At least 14 states, including Illinois, mandate
4 insurance coverage for osteoporosis-related diagnostic and
5 treatment services; and

6 WHEREAS, The month of May has been designated as National
7 Osteoporosis Awareness and Prevention Month; therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
9 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
10 we recognize and appreciate the ideals, goals, and activities
11 of National Osteoporosis Awareness and Prevention Month and
12 urge the people of Illinois to observe appropriate good health
13 programs and activities with respect to preventing and
14 controlling osteoporosis.