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LRB097 11023 KTG 51892 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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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

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

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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

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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

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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

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

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

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

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