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SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Primary immunodeficiency diseases are disorders
3 in which part of the body's immune system is missing or does
4 not function properly; these disorders are caused by intrinsic
5 or genetic defects in the immune system, many of which require
6 chronic replacement therapy consisting of immune globulin
7 administration, gamma interferon, antibiotic therapy, bone
8 marrow/stem cell transplantation, or gene therapy to protect
9 individuals from frequent life-threatening infections and
10 debilitating illnesses; and

11 WHEREAS, The World Health Organization recognizes more
12 than 150 primary immunodeficiency diseases; and

13 WHEREAS, As the public and the medical community know
14 little about primary immunodeficiency diseases that may affect
15 as many as 250,000 people in the United States, there is a
16 delay of 12.4 years from the onset of symptoms to diagnosis,
17 often resulting in permanent functional impairments; and

18 WHEREAS, It is necessary to educate healthcare
19 professionals about primary immunodeficiency diseases to
20 reduce delays in diagnosis and treatment, and widespread public
21 support is needed to understand these disorders, find cures,
22 and provide access to available life-saving therapies; the

1 Immune Deficiency Foundation is helping this cause by providing
2 advocacy, education, and research to improve diagnosis and
3 treatment; and

4 WHEREAS, The Immune Deficiency Foundation has declared
5 April as National Awareness Month for Primary Immune Diseases;
6 therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL
8 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we designate April as
9 Primary Immunodeficiency Awareness Month in the State of
10 Illinois and encourage all citizens to learn about primary
11 immunodeficiency diseases and support those affected by them;
12 and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
14 presented to the Immune Deficiency Foundation with our
15 appreciation of their ongoing effort to increase awareness and
16 understanding of primary immunodeficiency diseases.