



HR0016

LRB098 06899 MST 36956 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to recognize the 5th anniversary of the
4 Smokefree Illinois Act and to proclaim the month of January as
5 Smokefree Illinois Month; and

6 WHEREAS, Secondhand smoke is a major health hazard and
7 there is no risk-free level of exposure to secondhand smoke;
8 approximately 50,000 deaths each year are attributable to
9 secondhand smoke exposure according to the U.S. Surgeon
10 General, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and
11 the National Cancer Institute; and

12 WHEREAS, Separate smoking areas, air cleaning, or
13 ventilation does not eliminate exposure to secondhand smoke;
14 smokefree policies are the only effective protection from
15 exposure to secondhand smoke and smokefree laws provide
16 immediate health benefits, most notably a decline in heart
17 attack hospitalizations; and

18 WHEREAS, Hospitalizations in Illinois for tobacco-related
19 diseases have declined since the Smokefree Illinois Act was
20 enacted; it is estimated that more than 35,000 heart disease
21 hospitalizations among Illinois residents have been prevented
22 because of the Smokefree Illinois Act, resulting in an

1 estimated savings of \$1.8 billion in hospital costs alone,
2 according to Illinois Department of Health data; and

3 WHEREAS, The Smokefree Illinois Act protects all residents
4 and visitors regardless of where they work or play and it
5 attracts visitors from states with little or no protection from
6 secondhand smoke; and

7 WHEREAS, The health and economic benefits of the Illinois
8 Smokefree Act are widely recognized; therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
10 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
11 we recognize the 5th anniversary of the Smokefree Illinois Act
12 and proclaim the month of January as Smokefree Illinois Month
13 to remind the public about the benefits of protecting everyone
14 from the health risks associated with secondhand smoke and the
15 importance of prohibiting smoking in all public places and
16 workplaces; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
18 presented to the American Lung Association and the American
19 Cancer Society as an expression of our esteem and respect.