



SJ0058

LRB098 20432 GRL 56564 r

1 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate wish to commend  
3 CVS Caremark on its decision to stop selling tobacco products  
4 in its stores; and

5 WHEREAS, CVS Caremark has decided to stop selling tobacco  
6 products at its more than 7,600 stores across the United States  
7 by October 1, 2014, making it the first national pharmacy chain  
8 to take this step in support of the health and well-being of  
9 its patients and customers; and

10 WHEREAS, Decades of tobacco control efforts have greatly  
11 reduced the prevalence of cigarette smoking, but the rate of  
12 reduction in smoking prevalence has stalled in recent years; 42  
13 million people continue to smoke; and

14 WHEREAS, The impact of tobacco on our nation's children is  
15 striking - 90% of adult smokers began at or before age 18 and  
16 an estimated 5,600,000 kids alive today will die prematurely as  
17 a result of tobacco-related disease unless current trends are  
18 reversed; and

19 WHEREAS, Studies have demonstrated a relationship between  
20 tobacco use and geographic density of stores that sell  
21 cigarettes; reducing the density of stores that sell tobacco

1 can help reduce smoking among young people; and

2 WHEREAS, CVS Caremark's decision to cease tobacco sales  
3 underscores its role in the United States' evolving healthcare  
4 system; pharmacies are becoming more involved in chronic  
5 disease management to help those with high blood pressure, high  
6 cholesterol, and diabetes - all conditions that are exacerbated  
7 by smoking; and

8 WHEREAS, Smoking is the leading cause of premature disease  
9 and death in the United States, killing more than 480,000  
10 Americans and costing the nation an estimated \$289,000,000,000  
11 in medical costs and lost productivity annually; and

12 WHEREAS, CVS Caremark has also pledged to help millions of  
13 Americans quit smoking; this spring the company will launch a  
14 national smoking cessation program with the goal of helping  
15 millions of Americans quit smoking and get healthy; therefore,  
16 be it

17 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL  
18 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
19 CONCURRING HEREIN, that we encourage pharmacies throughout the  
20 State to stop selling tobacco products in their stores; and be  
21 it further

1           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
2 presented to CVS Caremark as an expression of our gratitude.