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LRB099 10222 MST 30448 r

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, Measles is a highly contagious respiratory disease that spreads easily through the air or on infected surfaces; it causes rash, high fever, cough, runny nose, and red watery eyes; people who are infected with measles can spread the virus for up to 4 days before developing symptoms; and

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WHEREAS, Measles affect all organs of the body, and can cause serious and, in some cases, fatal complications in children, including pneumonia and encephalitis; and

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WHEREAS, A non-immunized person or child has a 90% chance of getting the measles if they come in contact with an infected person; and

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WHEREAS, The measles vaccine has been shown in numerous studies to be one of the most safe and effective vaccines available; and

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WHEREAS, High immunization rates in a community will protect those who cannot be vaccinated, including children undergoing cancer treatment and infants under 12 months of age, who are at the highest risk of serious illness, hospitalization, or death due to measles; and

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1           WHEREAS, The American Academy of Pediatrics, the Centers  
2           for Disease Control and Prevention, and the American Academy of  
3           Family Physicians all recommend that children receive the  
4           measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine at the age of 12-15  
5           months, and again at 4-6 years; therefore, be it

6           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
7           NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE  
8           SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that we encourage the Illinois  
9           Department of Public Health to promulgate administrative rules  
10          pursuant to the requirement for health examinations and  
11          immunizations within the School Code and to encourage higher  
12          rates of vaccinations and to expedite this process in order to  
13          have such rules in place for the 2015-16 school year; and be it  
14          further

15          RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
16          delivered to the Director of the Illinois Department of Public  
17          Health.