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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, Sickle cell disease is an inherited multi-organ  
3 disorder leading to serious morbidity and premature mortality;  
4 people with sickle cell disease can start having episodes of  
5 severe pain after the first few months of life; sickle cell  
6 disease affects millions of people throughout the world, with  
7 90,000-100,000 people in the United States and 4000-5000 people  
8 here in Illinois affected by the disease; and

9           WHEREAS, Without proper screening and treatment, children  
10 with sickle cell disease are 410 times more likely to have a  
11 stroke than children the same age without sickle cell disease;  
12 with proper screening and treatment, children with sickle cell  
13 disease are still 40 times more likely to have a stroke than  
14 children the same age without sickle cell disease; and

15           WHEREAS, People with sickle cell disease have less access  
16 to comprehensive team care than people with genetic disorders  
17 such as hemophilia and cystic fibrosis; and

18           WHEREAS, Because of the nature of sickle cell disease,  
19 people suffering from sickle cell disease frequently have  
20 unplanned, unpredictable, and reoccurring needs, requiring  
21 multiple prolonged hospitalizations and frequent re-admissions  
22 within a 30-day period; and

1           WHEREAS, Most patients with sickle cell disease have or may  
2 receive Medicare or Medicaid benefits; currently in Illinois,  
3 the 30-Day Readmission Rule affects patients with Medicaid  
4 insurance plans; and

5           WHEREAS, In the most recent nationwide study of 39,324  
6 Medicaid admissions for sickle cell crisis from 2007 to 2012,  
7 40% of patients were readmitted to the hospital within 30 days;  
8 and

9           WHEREAS, The University of Illinois Hospital and Health  
10 Sciences System's Sickle Cell Center cares for the largest  
11 number of adult sickle cell patients in the  
12 Chicago-Metropolitan area, providing care to 649 unique adult  
13 sickle cell patients and 239 unique pediatric sickle cell  
14 patients in fiscal year 2014; this institution has lost  
15 millions of dollars in 30-Day Readmission penalties, and of  
16 that about one-third has been attributed to sickle cell  
17 patients; and

18           WHEREAS, Literature shows that a 7-day, 24-hour a day  
19 center such as the University of Illinois Hospital and Health  
20 Sciences System's Sickle Cell Acute Care Center reduces  
21 hospital admissions for those with sickle cell disease;  
22 therefore, be it

1           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
2 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
3 urge the Department of Healthcare and Family Services to waive  
4 the 30-Day Readmission Rule for those afflicted with sickle  
5 cell disease; and be it further

6           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
7 delivered to the Director of the Department of Healthcare and  
8 Family Services.