



HR0927

LRB099 15716 MST 40015 r

1

HOUSE RESOLUTION

2

WHEREAS, School District U-46 (Elgin) conducted routine water sampling and found abnormally high levels of Legionella; and

3

4

5

WHEREAS, The school district closed its facilities in an effort to protect school children; and

6

7

WHEREAS, Legionella is a bacteria that is found naturally in the environment, usually in warm water; and

8

9

WHEREAS, In situations where environmental factors are favorable to the growth of Legionella in large numbers and the bacteria is aerosolized, human illness can occur; and

10

11

12

WHEREAS, Legionnaires' disease is transmitted by the inhalation of a mist or vapor that has been contaminated with Legionella bacteria; and

13

14

15

WHEREAS, The most vulnerable population for contracting Legionnaires' disease is individuals 49 or older, smokers, and people with chronic lung disease or weakened immune systems; and

16

17

18

19

WHEREAS, Legionnaires' disease is not transmitted person

1 to person; and

2 WHEREAS, The United States Centers for Disease Control and
3 Prevention recommends, when Legionella is identified, to treat
4 the water; and

5 WHEREAS, The Illinois Department of Public Health has
6 encouraged school districts, prior to testing for Legionella,
7 to implement and develop plans for the testing if a positive
8 result were to occur; and

9 WHEREAS, School districts are following the testing
10 recommendations as outlined by the American Society of Heating,
11 Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers Standards;
12 therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
14 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
15 encourage the Illinois State Board of Education and the
16 Illinois Department of Public Health to work in collaboration
17 with school districts to develop and implement plans for the
18 testing of Legionella; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, The Illinois State Board of Education and the
20 Illinois Department of Public Health update the General
21 Assembly with a report on their progress by December 31, 2016;

1 and be it further

2 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
3 provided to the State Superintendent of Education and Director
4 of Public Health.