

1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The Illinois Department of Public Health
3 collects a wide variety of health surveillance data for
4 Illinois citizens and stores these data in numerous
5 databases; and

6 WHEREAS, The Illinois Department of Public Health is
7 mandated to provide to the General Assembly reports on data
8 from a number of these health surveillance systems; and

9 WHEREAS, The statutorily required reports provided to the
10 General Assembly from the Illinois Department of Public
11 Health maybe highly technical; and

12 WHEREAS, The mandated reports that the Illinois
13 Department of Public Health provides the General Assembly
14 have subject matter dictated by statute and not necessarily
15 by emerging public health concerns; and

16 WHEREAS, The Illinois Department of Public Health
17 provides information to a wide spectrum of groups and
18 individuals, each with different information needs; and

19 WHEREAS, Public health researchers may utilize
20 information from these databases to perform analyses that may
21 improve our knowledge of good public health practices in
22 Illinois; and

23 WHEREAS, The Illinois General Assembly and advocacy
24 groups needs to have summaries of health surveillance and
25 research findings publicized in order to consider and
26 prioritize policy recommendations intended to improve public
27 health; and

28 WHEREAS, Illinois citizens require these summaries to be
29 publicized in non-technical language in order to take
30 personal action to improve their health; therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
2 NINETY-SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE
3 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that the Illinois Department of
4 Public Health shall convene a working group consisting of
5 public health officials from the Department, several Illinois
6 counties and the City of Chicago, public health researchers,
7 and leaders of public health advocacy groups to review the
8 current Department reports and systems of reporting and
9 identify optimal means of providing information to the
10 variety of groups and individuals that rely on it; and be it
11 further

12 RESOLVED, That the Department shall provide a report to
13 the General Assembly summarizing the activities of the
14 working group and shall provide recommendations for improving
15 the flow of information between the Department and the groups
16 and individuals relying on its data.