



SR0098

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SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, HIV/AIDS is a serious public health issue that
3 affects almost 280,000 women in the United States; while men
4 account for most HIV/AIDS cases, the impact on women is
5 growing; women also face gaps in access to health care when
6 compared to men; and

7 WHEREAS, According to the American Foundation for Aids
8 Research, women account for more than one in four new HIV/AIDS
9 diagnoses and deaths caused by AIDS, and the proportion of AIDS
10 diagnoses reported among women has more than tripled since
11 1985; and

12 WHEREAS, HIV/AIDS has a disproportionate affect on women in
13 ethnic minorities; African-Americans and Hispanics represent a
14 quarter of all women in the United States, but they account for
15 over 80 percent of AIDS cases among women; African-Americans
16 constituted 61 percent of women diagnosed with HIV/AIDS in
17 2005; and

18 WHEREAS, Girls represented 43 percent of AIDS cases
19 reported among people aged 13 to 19; and

20 WHEREAS, Education is one of the most effective tools in
21 preventing HIV infections, and is especially important for

1 girls so that they are able to make informed decisions about
2 their sexual lives; and

3 WHEREAS, Eradicating the stigma of HIV/AIDS through
4 education can decrease the vulnerability of a group that may be
5 at high risk for HIV infection; and

6 WHEREAS, Throughout the month of March, organizations
7 across the country will come together to offer support, promote
8 discussion, and teach women and girls about prevention of HIV,
9 the importance of getting tested for HIV, and how to live with
10 and manage AIDS; and

11 WHEREAS, The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services'
12 Office on Women's Health has designated March 10, 2011 as
13 "National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day", a nationwide
14 observance that encourages people to take action in the fight
15 against HIV/AIDS and raise awareness of its impact on women and
16 girls; therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL
18 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we designate March 10,
19 2011 as "Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day in the State of
20 Illinois"; and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That we encourage State and local organizations

1 in their efforts to promote HIV/AIDS awareness and education to
2 women of all ages; and be it further

3 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
4 presented to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services'
5 Office on Women's Health in appreciation of their ongoing
6 effort to promote awareness of women's health issues.