



HR1106

LRB098 20725 GRL 57659 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Chronic pain can be a debilitating, complex human
3 condition stemming from any number of medical conditions or
4 injuries which threatens the quality of life for millions of
5 Americans; and

6 WHEREAS, A significant portion of those suffering with
7 chronic pain must rely on the use of stronger prescription
8 medications; and

9 WHEREAS, An estimated \$323 billion per year is spent on
10 prescription drugs used to treat chronic pain; and

11 WHEREAS, Prescription drugs used to treat pain, which are
12 predominately derived from opiates, are extremely addictive
13 and have created a national addiction epidemic; and

14 WHEREAS, The number of unintentional medication overdose
15 deaths from opioid analgesics was higher than that of cocaine
16 and heroin combined; and

17 WHEREAS, Pill mills, physician shopping, medication
18 diversion, and other abuses have unfortunately helped create an
19 illegal black market for prescription drugs; and

1 WHEREAS, Recent studies have proven that patients that are
2 being treated for chronic pain who regularly receive a
3 toxicology screening are much more compliant with their
4 prescriptions, which reduces the chance for overdose, saves the
5 healthcare system money, and decreases the chances that
6 prescription drugs will end up being sold illegally on the
7 black market; and

8 WHEREAS, In 2012, the State of Georgia mandated physicians
9 that treat chronic pain have a toxicology screening performed
10 every 3 months on their patients; therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
12 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
13 we urge the Illinois Department of Public Health to conduct a
14 study on mandated random toxicology screening by physicians
15 treating chronic pain and make specific determinations on the
16 effectiveness of such policy to reduce overdoses, combat
17 illegal prescription drug sales, and increase cost
18 effectiveness in the healthcare system; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That we urge the Illinois Department of Public
20 Health to submit its findings to the House of Representatives
21 as soon as possible after the conclusion of the study.