



SJ0027

LRB099 12405 GRL 35667 r

1 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Cystic fibrosis, commonly referred to as "CF", is
3 a genetic disease affecting approximately 30,000 children and
4 adults in the United States and nearly 70,000 children and
5 adults worldwide, 1,047 of whom live in Illinois; and

6 WHEREAS, A defective gene causes the body to produce an
7 abnormally thick, sticky mucus that clogs the lungs; these
8 secretions produce life-threatening lung infections and
9 obstruct the pancreas, preventing digestive enzymes from
10 reaching the intestines to help break down and absorb food; and

11 WHEREAS, More than 10 million Americans are symptomless
12 carriers of the defective cystic fibrosis gene; cystic fibrosis
13 occurs in approximately one of every 3,500 live births in the
14 United States; and

15 WHEREAS, The median age of survival for a person with
16 cystic fibrosis is 41.1 years; and

17 WHEREAS, With advances in the treatment of cystic fibrosis,
18 the number of adults with cystic fibrosis has steadily grown,
19 and approximately 1,000 new cases of cystic fibrosis are
20 diagnosed each year; and

1 WHEREAS, Nearly 50% of the cystic fibrosis population is 18
2 years of age and older; people with cystic fibrosis have a
3 variety of symptoms attributed to the more than 1,800 mutations
4 of the cystic fibrosis gene; and

5 WHEREAS, Infant blood screening to detect genetic defects
6 is the most reliable and least costly method to identify
7 persons likely to have cystic fibrosis; and

8 WHEREAS, Early diagnosis of cystic fibrosis permits early
9 treatment and enhances quality of life and longevity; the
10 treatment of cystic fibrosis depends on the stage of the
11 disease and the organs involved; and

12 WHEREAS, Clearing mucus from the lungs is an important part
13 of the daily cystic fibrosis treatment regimen; other types of
14 treatments include inhaled antibiotics and pancreatic enzymes,
15 among others; and

16 WHEREAS, There are 15 world-class treatment centers in
17 Illinois that specialize in the diagnosis of cystic fibrosis
18 and the care of persons with cystic fibrosis; and

19 WHEREAS, A critical component of treating patients with
20 cystic fibrosis includes access to innovative treatments,
21 which can play a crucial role in the lives of patients with

1 cystic fibrosis; and

2 WHEREAS, Improving the length and quality of life for
3 people with cystic fibrosis starts with awareness; therefore,
4 be it

5 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL
6 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
7 CONCURRING HEREIN, that we designate the month of May in 2015
8 as Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Month in the State of Illinois.