



HR0129

LRB104 12087 MST 22185 r

1

HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Vaccination is proven to be a safe, invaluable
3 tool to proactively safeguard public health and prevent the
4 devastating effects of vaccine-preventable diseases; and

5 WHEREAS, Vaccination has averted over 154 million deaths
6 globally since 1974, of which 146 million were among children
7 younger than five years of age; and

8 WHEREAS, Vaccination has greatly reduced morbidity and
9 mortality by eradicating vaccine-preventable diseases (e.g.,
10 smallpox) and has greatly reduced the incidence of infections
11 such as meningitis, measles, polio, and rubella; and

12 WHEREAS, Timely meningococcal vaccination in children and
13 young adults helps protect against the debilitating effects of
14 meningococcal disease, including death, and has led to a
15 significant decrease in incidence; and

16 WHEREAS, Vaccination for highly contagious diseases such
17 as measles is incredibly important; in order to achieve herd
18 immunity against measles, 95% of the population must be
19 vaccinated; if measles vaccination coverage rates drop below
20 that threshold, outbreaks and preventable deaths will
21 ultimately occur; therefore, maintaining high vaccine coverage

1 rates is critical to protect the public and prevent
2 transmission; and

3 WHEREAS, An analysis of costs associated with invasive
4 meningococcal disease outbreaks found that the average cost
5 per outbreak containment strategy was almost \$440,000
6 (\$299,641 and \$579,851 for small and large containment
7 strategies, respectively); and

8 WHEREAS, Among the approximately 117 million children born
9 during 1994-2023 in the United States, vaccination averted 508
10 million lifetime cases of illness, 32 million
11 hospitalizations, and 1.1 million deaths, resulting in
12 estimated savings of \$540 billion in direct medical costs and
13 \$2.7 trillion in societal costs; and

14 WHEREAS, Vaccination can prevent the development of
15 cancers later in life (e.g., human papillomavirus vaccination,
16 which has contributed to a 65% reduction in cervical cancer
17 incidence over the last decade); and

18 WHEREAS, Vaccination for four common diseases in older
19 adults, including shingles, is estimated to prevent 64 million
20 cases and \$185 billion in treatment costs over the next 30
21 years in the United States; and

1 WHEREAS, While vaccinating children provides substantial
2 health and economic benefit, vaccinating adults is also
3 important; many childhood vaccines provide life-long
4 protection; however, immunity can decrease over a person's
5 lifetime, and some vaccine-preventable diseases can be more
6 severe in adults; and

7 WHEREAS, There continues to be disease burden in adults,
8 especially in those with comorbidities, advanced age, or
9 immunocompromising conditions, warranting continued, timely
10 vaccination, especially against viruses that change frequently
11 (e.g., influenza, COVID-19); and

12 WHEREAS, For example, vaccination against shingles for
13 high-risk adults aged 19 and older, as well as all adults aged
14 50 and older, has proven highly effective in preventing both
15 the infection and its transmission, offering long-lasting
16 protection for several years after immunization; and

17 WHEREAS, For example, respiratory syncytial virus
18 vaccination in older adults is an effective preventive measure
19 that reduces the likelihood of hospitalization and critical
20 illness due to respiratory syncytial virus infection; and

21 WHEREAS, Vaccines remain a safe and effective public
22 health measure; in the United States, vaccines undergo a

1 thorough regulatory review process, which includes Food and
2 Drug Administration (FDA) approval and a recommendation from
3 the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) after
4 careful evaluation; therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
6 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
7 we declare April 10, 2025 as Vaccine Awareness Day in the State
8 of Illinois to educate the public about the importance of
9 vaccinations, initiate meaningful dialogue around
10 vaccinations, and encourage the uptake of vaccines; and be it
11 further

12 RESOLVED, That we urge the Illinois Department of Health
13 to continue to promote to healthcare providers and the people
14 of this state that vaccinations are a highly effective and
15 safe public health measure and increase public awareness about
16 the importance of all Illinois residents receiving recommended
17 immunizations, and to promote outreach and education efforts
18 concerning vaccinations; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That we urge the Illinois Department of Health
20 to continue to prioritize immunization initiatives, develop
21 policies, and invest in immunization infrastructure to ensure
22 broad and open access to immunizations to safeguard public
23 health and protect the well-being of Illinois residents.