



HR0340

LRB104 13510 ECR 25972 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Topical Steroid Withdrawal Syndrome (TSWS), also
3 known as Topical Steroid Addiction or Red Skin Syndrome, is a
4 severe, debilitating condition that can arise from intentional
5 or unintentional exposure to topical steroids; and

6 WHEREAS, Topical steroids are widely prescribed and
7 purchased over the counter to treat acute as well as chronic
8 skin conditions, including eczema, psoriasis, vitiligo, and
9 alopecia areata; and

10 WHEREAS, TSWS is characterized by skin flushing,
11 inflammation, diffuse spreading rashes, profuse skin flaking,
12 and burning and itching worse than the original condition, and
13 these symptoms typically appear after use of topical steroid
14 treatments, between treatments, or after discontinuing topical
15 steroids; and

16 WHEREAS, It can take several months to several years for
17 symptoms to subside, leaving some TSWS sufferers bedridden and
18 housebound, unable to work, care for children, or attend
19 school; and

20 WHEREAS, A prolonged withdrawal and recovery period for
21 TSWS can take a significant toll on both patients' mental

1 health and physical health, with 81% of adults and 56% of
2 children experiencing TSWS reporting feeling anxious and/or
3 depressed and 47% of adults and 11% of children experiencing
4 TSWS reporting suicidal ideation; and

5 WHEREAS, The prevalence of topical steroid addiction is
6 unknown due to a scarcity of published research, and the
7 limited research on TSWS impedes efforts to define diagnostic
8 criteria for the condition, understand its causes, mechanics,
9 and effects, develop appropriate treatment protocols, and
10 educate providers and patients about TSWS and steroid
11 stewardship; and

12 WHEREAS, A lack of awareness of and education about TSWS
13 among patients and providers can lead to friction between
14 them, causing patients to question their providers' medical
15 oversight and providers to suspect their patients of
16 medication non-compliance and, occasionally, parental neglect;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, All parties would benefit greatly from awareness
19 and prevention education on the signs of topical steroid
20 dependence and the risks of TSWS; therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
22 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that

1 we recognize February 3, 2025 as Topical Steroid Withdrawal
2 Syndrome Awareness Day to bring attention to Topical Steroid
3 Withdrawal Syndrome (TSWS).