



HR0845

LRB100 18340 MST 33546 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The opioid epidemic in Illinois and across the
3 country has headlined the news the past few years; and

4 WHEREAS, In Illinois alone, the Illinois Department of
5 Public Health reports that of the 2,278 deaths from drug
6 overdose in 2016, over 80% were from opioids, a 70% increase
7 from 2013 and a 32% increase from 2015; and

8 WHEREAS, While we have been aware of this problem, the
9 solution has remained elusive; and

10 WHEREAS, The legal and medical communities have sought to
11 combat the crisis by properly removing expired or unwanted
12 pills from the population through drug drop-off boxes and mail
13 back programs; and

14 WHEREAS, Both ways have seen initial success throughout a
15 number of states, but the drop-off boxes have been further
16 initiated than mail back programs here in Illinois, to the
17 point where some have been overflowing; and

18 WHEREAS, Pharmacies have started to install the boxes on
19 their own initiative, as a convenient location and alternative
20 for those who may fear using one in a police station; and

1 WHEREAS, It may be costly or problematic to require these
2 boxes, but for those who would like to install one voluntarily,
3 over \$281,000 has accrued in the Comptroller's Prescription
4 Pill and Drug Disposal Fund; and

5 WHEREAS, The changes adding drug disposal drop-off boxes
6 and mail-back programs to this fund were established under 20
7 ILCS 3930/9.3; and

8 WHEREAS, The Illinois Criminal Justice Information
9 Authority was charged with adopting rules and establishing
10 guidelines for grants by July 1, 2016, but no funds have been
11 released to date; and

12 WHEREAS, It would be in the best interest of the citizens
13 of Illinois to have these funds used for their intended
14 purposes; therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
16 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
17 urge the Office of the Comptroller to look into why these funds
18 have yet to be released and work to release them as soon as may
19 be possible; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be

1 presented to the Office of the Comptroller.