



SR0284

LRB101 11849 ALS 58786 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, In the United States, approximately 15 percent of children aged three through 17 have a developmental disability;

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and

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WHEREAS, Community-based services provide people with developmental disabilities the opportunity to live full lives that maximize their independence; and

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WHEREAS, Individuals with developmental disabilities deserve the same opportunities, experiences, and freedoms others enjoy; and

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WHEREAS, Illinois has a statewide database called the Prioritization for Urgency of Need for Services (PUNS), which records information about individuals with developmental disabilities who are potentially in need of services; and

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WHEREAS, As funding becomes available, the State uses the PUNS data to select individuals for services, such as housing, personal support, behavioral services, speech therapy, transportation, and many other necessary services; and

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WHEREAS, As of March 3, 2019, there were over 19,000 individuals on the PUNS database actively awaiting services;

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1 and

2 WHEREAS, Section 1115 of the Social Security Act gives the
3 U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services the authority to
4 approve experimental, pilot, or demonstration projects that
5 are found to be likely to assist in the promotion of the
6 objectives of the Medicaid program; and

7 WHEREAS, The purpose of these demonstrations, which gives
8 states additional flexibility to design and improve their
9 programs, is to demonstrate and evaluate the state-specific
10 policy approaches to better serving Medicaid populations; and

11 WHEREAS, In October 2016, the State of Illinois applied for
12 an 1115 Demonstration Waiver to build a continuum of services
13 for behavioral health disorders; and

14 WHEREAS, In May 2018, the federal government approved
15 Illinois's plan to better serve Medicaid beneficiaries with
16 mental health challenges and substance use disorders;
17 therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL
19 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we urge the Illinois
20 Department of Healthcare and Family Services and the Illinois
21 Department of Human Services to apply for an 1115 Demonstration

1 Waiver to increase the services available for individuals with
2 developmental disabilities and to serve Illinois citizens who
3 are waiting services on the PUNS waitlist at a more appropriate
4 pace; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
6 delivered to the Office of the Governor, the Director of the
7 Department of Healthcare and Family Services, and the Secretary
8 of the Department of Human Services.