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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The Illinois Department of Public Health's May
3 2022 report recorded 3,013 fatalities that occurred in 2021
4 due to opioid overdoses; and

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WHEREAS, The 3,013 Illinois opioid overdose deaths
6 represent a 2.3% increase from 2020 and a 35.8% spike from
7 2019; and

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WHEREAS, In 2021, toxicology testing found that 2,672
9 (89%) of the opioid fatalities involved a synthetic opioid,
10 such as fentanyl; and

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WHEREAS, A 4 mg naloxone hydrochloride nasal spray has
12 been the principal tool used by bystanders and emergency
13 medical services (EMS) to revive an individual from an
14 overdose episode; and

15

WHEREAS, A study, published in the Harm Reduction Journal
16 in May 2022, surveyed 125 adult U.S. residents who had been
17 administered 4 mg Naloxone nasal spray during an opioid
18 overdose and found that 78% used 2 or more doses and 30% used 3
19 or more doses of Naloxone; and

20

WHEREAS, A 2021 Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public

1 Health study published in the Harm Reduction Journal reported
2 on a survey of 171 people who use opioids in suburban Maryland;
3 sixty-one (35.7%) of these people who use opioids had received
4 take-home naloxone over a six month period: 57% of naloxone
5 recipients used it to reverse an overdose; 79% of overdose
6 reversals reported needing more than 2 doses; and

7 WHEREAS, Published by the National Library of Medicine, a
8 study of the National Emergency Medical Services Information
9 System Database of more than 10,000 EMS agencies across 47
10 states with 946,000 calls giving Naloxone shows that use of
11 Naloxone multi-dosing by EMS increased 54% over five-years,
12 from 18.4% to 28.4% in 2020; and

13 WHEREAS, On April 30, 2021, the U.S. Food and Drug
14 Administration approved a higher 8 milligram dose of naloxone
15 hydrochloride nasal spray product to treat opioid overdose;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, Thirty-four U.S. States have open access to the 8
18 mg naloxone nasal spray on their Naloxone Standing Orders,
19 including Ohio, Kentucky, Iowa, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts,
20 New Jersey, Virginia, Alabama, Florida, Tennessee, Colorado,
21 Alaska, New Hampshire, Illinois, Arizona, Kansas, California,
22 Texas, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, West Virginia,
23 Michigan, Connecticut, Oklahoma, Minnesota, Maine, Louisiana,

1 Nevada, Idaho, Oregon, Nebraska, and Vermont; and

2 WHEREAS, Thirteen state government agencies have purchased
3 the 8 mg Naloxone nasal spray, including Alabama, Alaska,
4 Colorado, Florida, Idaho, Iowa, Kentucky, New Hampshire, Ohio,
5 Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Wisconsin, and West Virginia; and

6 WHEREAS, The U.S. Veterans Administration added the 8 mg
7 naloxone nasal spray to the National Formulary in November
8 2021; and

9 WHEREAS, 70% of the number of lives covered by commercial
10 insurance in the U.S. can access the 8 mg naloxone nasal spray;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, 90% of the number of lives covered by Medicaid
13 insurance in the U.S. (40 states) can access the 8 mg naloxone
14 nasal spray, including Illinois; and

15 WHEREAS, The current cost of the 4 mg naloxone nasal spray
16 is \$5.93 per milligram and the 8 mg version is \$3.75 mg, or
17 36.7 percent less; and

18 WHEREAS, Being good stewards of taxpayer money is a
19 priority for the Illinois General Assembly; therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL
2 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we strongly urge the
3 Illinois Department of Human Services to review the value of
4 expanding its naloxone tool kit to include all U.S. Food and
5 Drug Administration-approved versions of naloxone to fight the
6 Illinois opioid epidemic; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
8 delivered to the Governor of Illinois, the Governor's Chief
9 Behavioral Health Officer, the Secretary of the Department of
10 Human Services, and the Director of the Division of Substance
11 Use, Prevention and Recovery.