



SR0028

LRB103 25358 MST 51703 r

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

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

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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, On October 19, 2021, the U.S. Food and Drug  
18 Administration also approved a single-dose, pre-filled syringe  
19 that delivers 5 milligrams of naloxone hydrochloride solution  
20 through intramuscular (in the muscle) or subcutaneous (under  
21 the skin) injection; and

22 WHEREAS, Thirty-four U.S. states have open access to the 8

1 milligram naloxone nasal spray on their Naloxone Standing  
2 Orders, including Ohio, Kentucky, Iowa, Pennsylvania,  
3 Massachusetts, New Jersey, Virginia, Alabama, Florida,  
4 Tennessee, Colorado, Alaska, New Hampshire, Illinois, Arizona,  
5 Kansas, California, Texas, Georgia, South Carolina, North  
6 Carolina, West Virginia, Michigan, Connecticut, Oklahoma,  
7 Minnesota, Maine, Louisiana, Nevada, Idaho, Oregon, Nebraska,  
8 and Vermont; and

9 WHEREAS, Thirteen state government agencies have purchased  
10 the 8 milligram naloxone nasal spray, including Alabama,  
11 Alaska, Colorado, Florida, Idaho, Iowa, Kentucky, New  
12 Hampshire, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Wisconsin, and West  
13 Virginia; and

14 WHEREAS, The U.S. Veterans Administration added the 8  
15 milligram naloxone nasal spray to the National Formulary in  
16 November 2021; and

17 WHEREAS, Seventy percent of the number of lives covered by  
18 commercial insurance in the U.S. can access the 8 milligram  
19 naloxone nasal spray; and

20 WHEREAS, Ninety percent of the number of lives covered by  
21 Medicaid insurance in the U.S. (40 states) can access the 8  
22 milligram naloxone nasal spray, including Illinois; and

1           WHEREAS, The current cost of the 4 milligram naloxone  
2 nasal spray is \$5.93 per milligram and the 8 milligram version  
3 is \$3.75 per milligram, or 36.7 percent less; and

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

6           RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL  
7 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we strongly urge the  
8 Illinois Department of Human Services to review the value of  
9 expanding its naloxone tool kit to include all U.S. Food and  
10 Drug Administration-approved versions of naloxone or other  
11 FDA-approved products to fight the Illinois opioid epidemic;  
12 and be it further

13           RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be  
14 delivered to the Governor of Illinois, the Governor's Chief  
15 Behavioral Health Officer, the Secretary of the Department of  
16 Human Services, and the Director of the Division of Substance  
17 Use, Prevention and Recovery.