

1 AN ACT in relation to health.

2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,  
3 represented in the General Assembly:

4 Section 5. The Department of Public Health Powers and  
5 Duties Law of the Civil Administrative Code of Illinois is  
6 amended by adding Sections 2310-376, 2310-377, and 2310-378  
7 as follows:

8 (20 ILCS 2310/2310-376 new)

9 Sec. 2310-376. Hepatitis C education and outreach.

10 (a) The Illinois General Assembly finds and declares the  
11 following:

12 (1) The World Health Organization characterizes  
13 Hepatitis C as a disease of primary concern to humanity.

14 (2) Hepatitis C is considered a silent killer; no  
15 recognizable signs or symptoms occur until severe liver  
16 damage has occurred.

17 (3) Studies indicate that nearly 4 million  
18 Americans (1.8 percent of the population) carry the virus  
19 HCV that causes the disease.

20 (4) 30,000 acute new infections occur each year in  
21 the United States, and only 25 to 30 percent are  
22 diagnosed.

23 (5) 8,000 to 10,000 Americans die from the disease  
24 each year.

25 (6) 200,000 Illinois residents may be carriers and  
26 could develop the debilitating and potentially deadly  
27 liver disease.

28 (7) Inmates of correctional facilities have a  
29 higher incidence of Hepatitis C and, upon their release,  
30 present a significant health risk to the general  
31 population.

1       (b) Subject to appropriation, the Department shall  
2       conduct an education and outreach campaign, in addition to  
3       its overall effort to prevent infectious disease in Illinois,  
4       in order to raise awareness about and promote prevention of  
5       Hepatitis C.

6           (20 ILCS 2310/2310-377 new)

7       Sec. 2310-377. Lupus education and outreach.

8       (a) The Illinois General Assembly finds and declares the  
9       following:

10           (1) Lupus is a chronic, incurable auto-immune  
11           disease of unknown origin that mainly affects women of  
12           childbearing age, is difficult to diagnose, and causes  
13           severe, potentially life-threatening organ damage.

14           (2) The Lupus Foundation of America estimates that  
15           1.4 million people in the U.S. have a form of lupus.

16           (3) Lupus causes the immune system to attack the  
17           body's healthy cells and tissues producing skin damage,  
18           rheumatoid arthritis, life-threatening inflammation of  
19           multiple major organs, and a potentially fatal failure of  
20           the renal, circulatory, or central nervous system.

21           (4) Symptoms include joint pain, rash, unusual loss  
22           of hair, unexplained fever, low blood counts, sensitivity  
23           to the sun, and fingers that turn pale or purple when  
24           exposed to cold.

25           (5) According to the Lupus Foundation of America, a  
26           survey of its members revealed that more than half of all  
27           people with lupus suffered 4 or more years and were  
28           examined by 3 or more doctors before obtaining a correct  
29           diagnosis.

30           (6) According to the Center for Disease Control and  
31           Prevention, the number of lupus-related deaths between  
32           1979 and 1988 increased dramatically; African American  
33           women, ages 45-64, experienced a 70% increase, the

1 largest increase among all groups in the 20 years  
2 studied.

3 (b) Subject to appropriation, the Department shall  
4 conduct an education and outreach campaign in order to raise  
5 awareness about the symptoms and treatment of lupus, a  
6 potentially life-threatening disease.

7 (20 ILCS 2310/2310-378 new)  
8 Sec. 2310-378. Wilson's disease.

9 (a) The Illinois General Assembly finds and declares the  
10 following:

11 (1) Wilson's disease is an inherited disorder in  
12 which excessive amounts of copper accumulate in the body  
13 and can cause liver disease and neurological or  
14 psychiatric disorders; and

15 (2) Successful treatment is available for sufferers  
16 of Wilson's disease but, without proper treatment, the  
17 disease is generally fatal by the age of 30.

18 (b) Subject to appropriation, the Department shall: (i)  
19 conduct a public health information campaign for physicians,  
20 hospitals, health facilities, public health departments, and  
21 the general public on Wilson's disease, methods of care, and  
22 treatment modalities available; (ii) identify and catalog  
23 Wilson's disease resources in this State for distribution and  
24 referral purposes; and (iii) coordinate services with  
25 established programs, including State, federal, and voluntary  
26 groups.