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HOUSE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The members of the House of Representatives of the State of Illinois recognize that the Illinois Hospice and Palliative Care Organization is celebrating over 20 years of service to terminally ill citizens; and

WHEREAS, A recent survey by Research!America indicated that the impact of uncontrolled pain is experienced by three out of every four surveyed, who are suffering from pain themselves or have a close family member or friend who suffers from chronic pain; and

WHEREAS, Almost 15 million Americans suffer chronic and intractable pain that is severe enough to be disabling; and

WHEREAS, Four out of ten chronic pain sufferers have had to make major, disruptive adjustments in their lives, such as disability leave from work, changing jobs, requiring assistance with basic daily activities, or moving into housing that is easier to manage; and

WHEREAS, The suicide rate for chronic pain patients is almost 20 times that of all other patients; and

WHEREAS, An estimated 70 percent of those with cancer experience significant pain during their illness, yet fewer than one half of them receive adequate pain treatment; and

WHEREAS, One out of two Americans will die in severe to moderate pain; and

WHEREAS, The Illinois Hospice and Palliative Care Organization as a statewide 501(c)(3) membership organization has developed a special initiative to address pain issues in Illinois; and

1 WHEREAS, The Illinois Hospice and Palliative Care
2 Organization serves as a clearinghouse for information on
3 end-of-life issues and offers several educational
4 opportunities for professionals and volunteers in the field;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, The Illinois Hospice and Palliative Care
7 Organization responds to requests for information from the
8 general public for information and referrals on end-of-life
9 care and family care-giving; therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
11 NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
12 we do hereby proclaim September 2005 as Pain Management Month
13 in Illinois and encourage all citizens to be understanding and
14 compassionate toward those in pain.