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LRB097 20148 GRL 65544 r

1 SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Modern medicine has made amazing advances in  
3 fighting pediatric cancer and pediatric cancer survivors are  
4 faced with a unique set of problems because of these advances;  
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Cure rates for pediatric cancers have risen  
7 dramatically during the past 20 years; it is estimated that one  
8 in every 900 adults, aged 16 to 44, is a survivor of pediatric  
9 cancer; and

10 WHEREAS, Almost 70% of children that are diagnosed with  
11 brain cancer survive treatment today; this statistic calls into  
12 focus the need to look at a child's quality of life in the  
13 years following treatment; and

14 WHEREAS, Pediatric cancer survivorship can come with a  
15 price in the form of long-term medical, financial,  
16 psychosocial, and neuro-cognitive problems due to  
17 chemotherapy, radiation, or surgery; and

18 WHEREAS, The major expenses of a pediatric cancer diagnosis  
19 and treatment program are associated with the direct costs of  
20 medical care, including charges for hospitalizations, clinic  
21 visits, medications, tests and procedures, home health

1 services, services of doctors and other professionals, and  
2 other treatment, including surgery, chemotherapy, radiation  
3 therapy, and bone marrow or peripheral stem cell  
4 transplantation; and

5 WHEREAS, Even well insured middle-class families with  
6 health insurance can find themselves in financial distress  
7 because of a single catastrophic illness; even when insurance  
8 doesn't run out, health care costs can be staggering for the  
9 families of children with cancer; and

10 WHEREAS, The State of Illinois recognizes that amazing  
11 advances have been made in the treatment of pediatric cancer  
12 and survivor rates; therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL  
14 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we designate the week  
15 of March 25-31, 2012 as Pediatric Cancer Survivorship Week in  
16 this State.