

## 1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Approximately 100,000 Illinoisans qualify for  
3 Medicaid only by first spending down their monthly income on  
4 medical bills to the Medicaid eligibility level (currently  
5 \$608 per month for a single adult and \$822 per month for a  
6 married couple); and

7 WHEREAS, The process of verifying that these Illinoisans  
8 have spent down their monthly income on medical bills to the  
9 Medicaid eligibility level is often cumbersome and  
10 time-consuming for both recipients and local office staff of  
11 the Department of Human Services; and

12 WHEREAS, Federal law permits the Department of Public Aid  
13 to give Illinoisans enrolled in Medicaid spenddown the option  
14 of pre-paying their spenddown amount in a manner similar to a  
15 monthly insurance premium; and

16 WHEREAS, Having the option of pre-paying their Medicaid  
17 spenddown amount is likely to benefit many Illinoisans on  
18 Medicaid spenddown, who would then be able to receive a  
19 Medicaid card each month without delay and without having to  
20 present bills and receipts to their local Department of Human  
21 Services office each month; and

22 WHEREAS, Several states have established successful  
23 Medicaid spenddown pre-payment programs; therefore, be it

24 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
25 NINETY-SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
26 the Department of Public Aid is directed to:

27 (1) Conduct a study of the feasibility of establishing a  
28 Medicaid spenddown pre-payment program in Illinois,  
29 including, but not limited to, (i) an analysis of spenddown  
30 pre-payment programs in other states, (ii) an estimate of the  
31 number of Illinoisans who would be eligible to participate in

1 a spenddown pre-payment program, (iii) the projected number  
2 of eligible individuals who are likely to participate in a  
3 spenddown pre-payment program, (iv) an analysis of how  
4 Medicaid spenddown recipients may or may not benefit from a  
5 spenddown pre-payment program, (v) a description of  
6 administrative and policy changes that would be necessary to  
7 implement a spenddown pre-payment program, and (vi) projected  
8 cost increases and cost savings that would result from the  
9 implementation of a spenddown pre-payment program;

10 (2) Collaborate with the Department of Human Services,  
11 advocates for Medicaid spenddown recipients, and other  
12 interested parties in designing and conducting the  
13 feasibility study; and

14 (3) File a written report with the House of  
15 Representatives on or before December 31, 2002, regarding the  
16 feasibility of implementing a Medicaid spenddown pre-payment  
17 program in Illinois; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That the Department of Human Services shall  
19 cooperate in executing the requirements of this Resolution;  
20 and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the  
22 Director of Public Aid and to the Secretary of Human  
23 Services.