



SR0318

LRB100 11969 MST 23853 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, There are 7,000 chemicals in secondhand smoke,
3 hundreds of which are toxic and 70 of which are known to cause
4 cancer; and

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WHEREAS, Exposure to secondhand smoke has an immediate
6 adverse impact on the cardiovascular system, damaging blood
7 vessels, increasing the likelihood of clots, heart attacks, and
8 strokes; it increases the risk of emphysema, lung cancer, and
9 other chronic diseases and causes premature death in children
10 and adults who do not smoke; and

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WHEREAS, Tobacco use is responsible for 18,300 deaths in
12 Illinois annually, including most lung cancer deaths; and

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WHEREAS, Each year, the State of Illinois spends \$5.49
14 billion on health care costs for tobacco-related illnesses and
15 has to manage a Medicaid burden of \$1.9 billion; these health
16 and economic costs are shared by every Illinois resident,
17 regardless of whether or not they smoke; and

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WHEREAS, Proactive tobacco control policies can save lives
19 and dollars; grassroots volunteers in Illinois worked for more
20 than 30 years to pass legislation to reduce the harmful effects
21 of smoking and secondhand smoke; and

1 WHEREAS, The 95th Illinois General Assembly passed Senate
2 Bill 500 - the Smoke Free Illinois Act, prohibiting smoking in
3 all workplaces and public places, including bars and
4 restaurants on March 29, 2007; and

5 WHEREAS, Since the passage of the Smoke Free Illinois Act,
6 there has been a nearly 20.5% decrease in hospitalizations from
7 asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), and
8 acute myocardial infarction (heart attack) among Illinois
9 adults; the drop in asthma and heart attacks has resulted in
10 savings of more than \$1 billion for Illinois; and

11 WHEREAS, The adult smoking rate in Illinois in 2007 was
12 20.7%; as of 2017, the rate has fallen to 15.1%; the 2007 high
13 school smoking rate was 21.7%; as of 2017, the rate has fallen
14 to 15.1%; the 2007 middle school smoking rate was 8.8%; as of
15 2017, the rate has fallen to 2%; and

16 WHEREAS, Illinois children are growing up in a smoke-free
17 public indoor environment, and do not remember, or have never
18 heard the question "do you want to sit in the smoking or
19 non-smoking section"; therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH GENERAL
21 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we declare March 29,

1 2017 as "Smoke-Free Illinois Day" in recognition of the
2 improved health benefits by Illinois going smoke-free ten years
3 ago; and be it further

4 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
5 presented to the American Lung Association as a symbol of our
6 respect and esteem.