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1 HOUSE RESOLUTION 713

2 WHEREAS, The Illinois Prevention Network (IPN) is a
3 statewide collaboration of prevention professionals, community
4 coalitions, and organizations committed to creating and
5 sustaining safe, healthy, and drug-free communities by
6 advancing evidence-based strategies that reduce youth
7 substance use, promote mental wellness, and support families
8 across Illinois; and

9 WHEREAS, National Prevention Week, observed from May 10
10 through May 16, 2026, is an annual public education campaign
11 sponsored by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services
12 Administration (SAMHSA) to raise awareness about the
13 importance of substance use prevention and positive mental
14 health; and

15 WHEREAS, Community-based coalitions are recognized as an
16 evidence-based, population-level strategy for substance use
17 prevention and behavioral health promotion, leveraging
18 cross-sector collaboration to reduce risk factors and enhance
19 protective factors for youth and families; and

20 WHEREAS, The Drug-Free Communities (DFC) Support Program,
21 funded by the Office of National Drug Control Policy,
22 administered by the Centers for Disease Control and

1 Prevention, currently supports 11 coalitions in Illinois that
2 engage youth and adults in developing local solutions to
3 prevent substance use among young people; and

4 WHEREAS, The Illinois Link Together coalition was named
5 coalition of the year by CADCA, which represents and supports
6 over 7,000 community coalitions in every U.S. state and
7 territory and more than 28 countries around the world; and

8 WHEREAS, Illinois leads the nation in the number of CADCA
9 Blue Ribbon recipients with outstanding coalitions, including
10 the Communities for Positive Youth Development (CPYD)
11 Coalition, the Stand Strong Coalition, the Juvenile Justice
12 Council of Iroquois County, the North Shore Coalition for
13 Drug-Free Communities, the Choose Your Path Coalition, the
14 Braidwood Area Healthy Community Coalition, and the Healthy
15 Communities Alliance; and

16 WHEREAS, The Pledge for Life coalition was named a Dose of
17 Prevention award first runner-up by CADCA for their effective
18 stop medicine abuse campaign in 2024; and

19 WHEREAS, These Illinois coalitions serve as models for
20 effective implementation of SAMHSA's Strategic Prevention
21 Framework and demonstrate measurable community-level
22 reductions in youth substance use through inclusive

1 partnerships, youth-led initiatives, and culturally responsive
2 programming; and

3 WHEREAS, The Illinois Youth Survey (IYS), administered
4 biennially by the Center for Prevention Research and
5 Development at the University of Illinois, provides critical
6 data on youth substance use, mental health, and related risk
7 behaviors, enabling communities to tailor prevention
8 strategies; and

9 WHEREAS, The 2024 IYS data indicates positive trends in
10 reduced youth use of alcohol, tobacco, and prescription drugs,
11 highlighting the effectiveness of ongoing prevention
12 initiatives led by community coalitions, schools, and other
13 local stakeholders; and

14 WHEREAS, National Prevention Week provides an opportunity
15 to elevate the role of prevention in promoting mental and
16 behavioral wellness, reducing youth substance use, and
17 building stronger, healthier communities across the State of
18 Illinois; therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
20 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
21 we declare May 10 through May 16, 2026 as Prevention Week in
22 the State of Illinois; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That we commend the leadership and commitment of
2 the many agencies and partners across the State whose work
3 supports prevention coalition, youth leaders, schools, and
4 families who work tirelessly to create safe and supportive
5 environments through prevention and mental health promotion,
6 in particular the Illinois Prevention Network, including the
7 Illinois Association for Behavioral Health, THRIVE Youth
8 Coalition and THRIVE Parenting Project, the Wabash County Drug
9 Free Community Coalition, Healthy Communities Alliance,
10 Catalyst Stevenson High School, Family Guidance Centers, the
11 Wilmington Coalition for a Healthy Community, the DuPage
12 County Prevention Leadership Team (PLT), the Choose Your Path
13 Coalition (Wauconda area), the Carroll County Substance
14 Education Coalition, Prevention First, the Stand Strong
15 Coalition, the Communities for Positive Youth Development
16 Coalition (CPYD), the Link Together Coalition, the Boone
17 County Drug Prevention Coalition, the Community-The Anti-Drug
18 Coalition & LEAD: Lead & Educate Against Drugs Youth
19 Coalitions - Deerfield & Highland Park High Schools, the
20 Massac County Drug Awareness Coalition, Live Well Mendota, and
21 the Will County Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition.