



HR0810

LRB104 21472 LAW 36686 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Vaccination is proven to be a safe, invaluable
3 tool to proactively safeguard public health and prevent the
4 devastating effects of vaccine-preventable diseases; and

5 WHEREAS, Vaccination has averted over 154 million deaths
6 globally since 1974, of which 146 million were among children
7 younger than 5 years of age; and

8 WHEREAS, Vaccination has greatly reduced morbidity and
9 mortality by eradicating vaccine-preventable diseases, such as
10 smallpox, and greatly reducing the incidence of a number of
11 infections, including meningitis, measles, polio, and rubella;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, Timely meningococcal vaccination in children and
14 young adults helps protect against the debilitating effects of
15 meningococcal disease, including death, and has led to a
16 significant decrease in incidence; and

17 WHEREAS, Vaccination for highly contagious diseases, such
18 as measles, is incredibly important; in order to achieve herd
19 immunity against measles, 95% of the population must be
20 vaccinated; if measles vaccination coverage rates drop below
21 that threshold, outbreaks and preventable deaths will

1 ultimately occur; and

2 WHEREAS, In 2025, declining measles, mumps, and rubella
3 (MMR) vaccination rates contributed to 49 measles outbreaks in
4 the United States, with over 2,200 confirmed cases, the
5 highest case count in over three decades; entering 2026,
6 ongoing measles outbreaks risk the loss of measles elimination
7 status in the United States, which has been in place since
8 2000; and

9 WHEREAS, An analysis of costs associated with invasive
10 meningococcal disease outbreaks found that the average cost
11 per outbreak containment strategy was almost \$440,000, or
12 \$299,641 and \$579,851 for small and large containment
13 strategies, respectively; and

14 WHEREAS, Among the approximately 117 million children born
15 in the United States during 1994 to 2023, vaccination averted
16 508 million lifetime cases of illness, 32 million
17 hospitalizations, and 1.1 million deaths, resulting in an
18 estimated savings of \$540 billion in direct medical costs and
19 \$2.7 trillion in societal costs; and

20 WHEREAS, Vaccination can prevent the development of
21 cancers later in life, evidenced by the success of the human
22 papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination, which has contributed to a

1 65% reduction in cervical cancer incidence over the last
2 decade; and

3 WHEREAS, Infants exposed to hepatitis B have a 90% risk of
4 developing chronic hepatitis B, greatly increasing their risk
5 of developing serious liver conditions, including liver cancer
6 or cirrhosis, in their lifetime; and

7 WHEREAS, Infants face an increased hepatitis B exposure
8 risk through everyday contact and infected family members, and
9 they are susceptible to developing acute and serious health
10 issues if they are infected at birth or in early childhood; and

11 WHEREAS, Public health analyses suggest that skipping or
12 delaying the hepatitis B birth dose could result in thousands
13 of preventable hepatitis B infections and hundreds of millions
14 in avoidable healthcare costs in the United States; and

15 WHEREAS, Vaccination for four common diseases in older
16 adults, including shingles, is estimated to prevent 64 million
17 cases and \$185 billion in treatment costs in the United States
18 over the next 30 years; and

19 WHEREAS, While vaccinating children provides substantial
20 health and economic benefits, vaccinating adults is also
21 important; many childhood vaccines provide lifelong

1 protection; however, immunity can decrease over a person's
2 lifetime, and some vaccine-preventable diseases can be more
3 severe in adults; and

4 WHEREAS, There continues to be disease burden in adults,
5 especially in those with comorbidities, advanced age, or
6 immunocompromising conditions, warranting continued, timely
7 vaccination, especially against viruses that change
8 frequently, such as influenza and COVID-19; and

9 WHEREAS, For example, vaccination against shingles for
10 high-risk adults aged 19 and older, as well as all adults aged
11 50 and older, has proven highly effective in preventing both
12 the infection and its transmission, offering long-lasting
13 protection for several years after immunization; and

14 WHEREAS, In addition, respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)
15 vaccination in older adults is an effective preventive measure
16 that reduces the likelihood of hospitalization and critical
17 illness due to RSV infection; and

18 WHEREAS, Vaccines remain a safe and effective tool
19 critical to safeguarding public health; therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
21 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that

1 we declare July 10, 2026 as Vaccine Awareness Day in the State
2 of Illinois to continue educating the public on the importance
3 of vaccination, initiate meaningful dialogue around
4 vaccination, and encourage the uptake of recommended vaccines;
5 and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That we urge the Illinois Department of Public
7 Health (IDPH) to inform healthcare providers and Illinois
8 residents that vaccinations are a highly effective and safe
9 public health measure and to increase public awareness about
10 the importance of all Illinois residents receiving
11 immunizations as recommended by IDPH or other reputable
12 professional medical societies, including the American Academy
13 of Pediatrics, the American College of Obstetricians and
14 Gynecologists, and the American Academy of Family Physicians;
15 and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That we urge IDPH to specify in its
17 communications the differences between recommendations from
18 the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) and
19 those issued by professional medical societies and to promote
20 vaccination outreach and education initiatives that emphasize
21 the importance of communication between patients and
22 healthcare providers; and be it further

23 RESOLVED, That we urge IDPH to continue prioritizing

1 immunization initiatives and policies and to invest in
2 immunization infrastructure to ensure broad and open access to
3 immunizations to protect the public health and well-being of
4 Illinois residents; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That urge IDPH to strengthen the State's public
6 health preparedness, encourage the promotion and sharing of
7 evidence-based vaccine recommendations, improve cross-state
8 collaboration, and respond effectively to federal vaccine
9 policies that lack scientific basis; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That we urge the Governor of Illinois to explore
11 joining a multi-state public health collaborative.