



HR0094

LRB100 10333 MST 20522 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, School District U-46 (Elgin) conducted routine
3 water sampling and found abnormally high levels of Legionella;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, The school district closed its facilities in an
6 effort to protect school children; and

7 WHEREAS, Legionella is a bacteria that is found naturally
8 in the environment, usually in warm water; and

9 WHEREAS, In situations where environmental factors are
10 favorable to the growth of Legionella in large numbers and the
11 bacteria is aerosolized, human illness can occur; and

12 WHEREAS, Legionnaires' disease is transmitted by the
13 inhalation of a mist or vapor that has been contaminated with
14 Legionella bacteria; and

15 WHEREAS, The most vulnerable population for contracting
16 Legionnaires' disease is individuals 49 or older, smokers, and
17 people with chronic lung disease or weakened immune systems;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, Legionnaires' disease is not transmitted person

1 to person; and

2 WHEREAS, The United States Centers for Disease Control and
3 Prevention recommends, when Legionella is identified, to treat
4 the water; and

5 WHEREAS, The Illinois Department of Public Health has
6 encouraged school districts, prior to testing for Legionella,
7 to implement and develop plans for the testing if a positive
8 result were to occur; and

9 WHEREAS, School districts are following the testing
10 recommendations as outlined by the American Society of Heating,
11 Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers Standards;
12 therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
14 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
15 encourage the Illinois State Board of Education and the
16 Illinois Department of Public Health to work in collaboration
17 with school districts to develop and implement plans for the
18 testing of Legionella; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, The Illinois State Board of Education and the
20 Illinois Department of Public Health update the General
21 Assembly with a report on their progress by December 31, 2016;

1 and be it further

2 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
3 provided to the State Superintendent of Education and Director
4 of Public Health.