

HR0957

LRB101 23435 MST 74708 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The COVID-19 pandemic has shut down our schools 3 and businesses, forced people to self-isolate and stay home, 4 and has cost thousands of Illinois lives; and

5 WHEREAS, Operation Warp Speed is a public-private 6 partnership initiated by the U.S. government to facilitate and 7 accelerate the development, manufacturing, and distribution of 8 COVID-19 vaccines, therapies, and diagnostics; and

9 WHEREAS, Through Operation Warp Speed, various COVID-19 10 vaccines were developed and approved for public administration 11 much faster than in the case of most vaccines; and

12 WHEREAS, Although the development of the COVID-19 vaccines 13 was accomplished at an accelerated pace, the distribution of 14 those vaccines has been slower than expected; and

15 WHEREAS, While the efforts of Operation Warp Speed to 16 accelerate the development and approval of the vaccine is 17 appreciated, the citizens of Illinois cannot be kept waiting; 18 with a new, more contagious variant of COVID-19 spreading, the 19 need for the vaccine is even more pressing; and

20 WHEREAS, According to publicly reported information, the

HR0957 -2- LRB101 23435 MST 74708 r federal government currently has upwards of 50 percent of currently produced vaccines held back by the Trump Administration; and

WHEREAS, The Trump administration has reportedly held back these vaccines to prepare to mitigate situations in the manufacturing and distribution of the doses; and

7 WHEREAS, However, with the agreements with Pfizer and 8 Moderna with Operation Warp Speed for 400 million vaccines 9 doses for the U.S. government along with the expected emergency 10 use authorizations from Johnson & Johnson and AstraZenerca, 11 there should be no concerns about the safety or effectiveness 12 of the manufacturing pipeline; and

13 WHEREAS, While these vaccines are being kept in storage, 14 America is losing over 2,600 lives each day to the COVID-19 15 pandemic; and

16 WHEREAS, The failure to effectively distribute the 17 COVID-19 vaccine in a timely manner has and will continue to 18 have dire consequences for Illinois residents and the country 19 as a whole; and

20 WHEREAS, Ensuring the health and safety of Illinois 21 citizens is of the upmost importance; therefore, be it HR0957 -3- LRB101 23435 MST 74708 r

1 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE 2 HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that 3 we urge the federal government to distribute the reserve 4 COVID-19 vaccines to states; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be 6 delivered to the President of the United States, the Vice 7 President of the United States; the U.S. Department of Health 8 and Human Services, and all members of the Illinois 9 Congressional Delegation.