



SJ0027

LRB101 11285 MST 56660 r

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The Constitution of the State of Illinois asserts that the public policy of the State and the duty of each person is to provide and maintain a healthful environment for the benefit of this and future generations; and

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WHEREAS, The General Assembly shall provide by law for the implementation and enforcement of this public policy; and

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WHEREAS, Ethylene oxide is a known carcinogen and its discharge and emission into the atmosphere in high concentrations constitutes a threat to public health and safety; and

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WHEREAS, The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Illinois Environmental Protection Agency are charged with the enforcement of our federal and State environmental laws and standards to ensure pollutants or discharges from Illinois businesses do not put the health and welfare of Illinois residents and workers in jeopardy; and

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WHEREAS, The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency completed multiple air sampling and tests around the Sterigenics facility in Willowbrook that discovered heightened levels of ethylene oxide in the air around the facility; and

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1           WHEREAS, Following the results of those tests, the Illinois  
2 Environmental Protection Agency issued a seal order preventing  
3 the use of ethylene oxide by a facility in Willowbrook on  
4 February 15, 2019; and

5           WHEREAS, Lake County has two facilities currently  
6 permitted to emit and discharge ethylene oxide; and

7           WHEREAS, No state or federal agency has yet to conduct  
8 ambient air quality or sampling tests around the Lake County  
9 facilities that emit and discharge ethylene oxide; therefore,  
10 be it

11           RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL  
12 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
13 CONCURRING HEREIN, that we urge the U.S. Environmental  
14 Protection Agency to consider the serious concerns of residents  
15 of Lake County regarding the recent ethylene oxide emissions  
16 and the subsequent environmental and public health threat posed  
17 to the people of Illinois; and be it further

18           RESOLVED, That we urge the U.S. Environmental Protection  
19 Agency to conduct ambient air monitoring and testing in and  
20 around the two known facilities emitting or discharging  
21 ethylene oxide in Lake County; and be it further

1           RESOLVED, That we urge the Illinois Environmental  
2 Protection Agency to take whatever actions possible to assist  
3 in the ambient air monitoring and protection of the public in  
4 regards to the environmental and health risks posed by ethylene  
5 oxide emissions in Lake County.