



HJ0075

LRB102 26604 LAW 37344 r

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, Tobacco smoke is a major contributor to indoor air pollution, and breathing secondhand smoke is a cause of disease and death, including heart disease, stroke, respiratory disease, lung cancer, low birth-weight babies, sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), increased respiratory infections in children, asthma in children and adults, sinus cancer, and breast cancer in younger, premenopausal women; and

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WHEREAS, The 2006 U.S. Surgeon General report, The Health Consequences of Involuntary Exposure to Tobacco Smoke, estimated that exposure to secondhand smoke kills approximately 50,000 people in the United States annually, including approximately 2,000 in Illinois; there is no risk-free level of exposure to secondhand smoke; ventilation and other air cleaning technologies cannot completely control for exposure of nonsmokers to secondhand smoke; smoke-free workplace policies are the only effective way to eliminate secondhand smoke exposure in the workplace, and evidence shows that smoke-free policies and laws do not have an adverse economic impact on the hospitality industry; and

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WHEREAS, The Illinois Department of Public Health reported a 28.4 percent decline in the smoking rate after the Smoke Free Illinois Act (the Act) was enacted in 2008 in addition to a 4.1

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1 percent and 1.4 percent decline in the mortality rate for
2 heart disease and lung cancer, respectively; the number of
3 callers to the Illinois Tobacco Quitline increased
4 dramatically after the Act became law from 7,255 in 2006 to
5 24,575 in 2012; in 2011, 91 percent of adults reported no
6 exposure to secondhand smoke in indoor public places, and 89%
7 of Illinois adults believed policies not allowing tobacco use
8 in indoor or outdoor public places should be strictly
9 enforced; and

10 WHEREAS, Twenty-eight states and the District of Columbia
11 have passed comprehensive smoke-free laws to protect people
12 against the harmful effects of secondhand smoke; and

13 WHEREAS, Aerosol from electronic cigarettes has a high
14 concentration of heavy metals, volatile organic compounds, and
15 ultrafine particles; the particle concentration is higher than
16 in conventional tobacco cigarette smoke; exposure to fine and
17 ultrafine particles may exacerbate respiratory ailments like
18 asthma and constrict arteries, which could trigger a heart
19 attack; and

20 WHEREAS, The World Health Organization (WHO) recommends
21 that electronic cigarettes not be used indoors, especially in
22 smoke-free environments, in order to minimize the risk to
23 bystanders of breathing in the aerosol emitted by the devices

1 and to avoid undermining the enforcement of smoke-free laws;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, Secondhand smoke from combusted marijuana
4 contains many of the same toxins, irritants, and carcinogens
5 as tobacco smoke that can be breathed deeply into the lungs,
6 which can cause lung irritation and asthma attacks and makes
7 respiratory infections more likely; exposure to fine
8 particulate matter can exacerbate health problems, especially
9 for people with respiratory conditions like asthma,
10 bronchitis, or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease; research
11 has shown that secondhand marijuana smoke can do as much
12 damage to the heart and blood vessels as secondhand tobacco
13 smoke; and

14 WHEREAS, The American Society for Heating, Refrigeration,
15 and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE), the standard setting
16 body for the HVAC industry, affirms that mechanical solutions
17 like ventilation cannot control for the health hazards of
18 secondhand smoke, and its standard (62.1) for acceptable
19 indoor air quality is based on an environment that is free from
20 tobacco and marijuana smoke and secondhand aerosol from
21 electronic cigarettes; therefore, be it

22 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
23 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE

1 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that we strive to protect and
2 strengthen the Smoke Free Illinois Act and urge the Illinois
3 Department of Public Health to provide a data brief by 2023 on
4 the impact of the Act since 2013 to commemorate the 15th
5 anniversary of the Act's enactment; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
7 delivered to the Illinois Department of Public Health.