



HR0266

LRB102 18280 LAW 25977 r

1

HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, During the COVID-19 pandemic, the CDC has
3 reported that the obesity rate of Americans has risen to above
4 40% for the first time, and the rate of childhood obesity has
5 risen to above 20%, especially in the age group of 13 to 18
6 year olds; and

7 WHEREAS, This is especially important given that, despite
8 the current pandemic, the leading cause of death in the United
9 States remains cardiovascular disease, which is mostly caused
10 by obesity and being overweight in correlation with the
11 complications that arise from those symptoms; and

12 WHEREAS, Doctors have noted that one of the largest causes
13 of obesity in Americans is a diet that is high in simple
14 carbohydrates, including soft drinks; along with soft drinks
15 being filled with harmful sugars, energy drinks have also been
16 shown by the CDC to cause heart complications due to high
17 levels of caffeine when consumed in excess; in 2011, the
18 overconsumption of energy drinks resulted in the
19 hospitalization of 1,499 students across the United States;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, The CDC released a report in 2017 that detailed
22 that between 2011 to 2014, almost two-thirds of children

1 consume at least one sugar-sweetened beverage per day; among
2 older children, aged 13 to 19, this number rose; this same
3 report also provides evidence that links consumption of these
4 drinks to obesity and recommends that children should choose
5 to drink items without added sugars; and

6 WHEREAS, A majority of students have easy access to both
7 soft drinks and energy drinks through their schools' lunch
8 rooms and vending machines; and

9 WHEREAS, Children developing nutritional habits should not
10 have free access to harmful liquids, especially when it is
11 available every day; it has been shown that many patterns in
12 diets among children tend to reflect their eating patterns
13 throughout the majority of their lives, meaning that it is
14 important to develop good nutritional habits in their
15 formative years; and

16 WHEREAS, The welfare of children is an enormous
17 responsibility, and the State of Illinois must work towards
18 ensuring the lives and health of its children are protected;
19 therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
21 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
22 we urge the General Assembly to examine the impact of sugary

1 beverages on children and the availability of sugary drinks in
2 our State's public schools; and be it further

3 RESOLVED, That we urge everyone to make healthy choices in
4 their respective diets; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
6 delivered to Kate Wexell.