



1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Hemophilia is a genetic condition affecting  
3 approximately 700 persons in the State of Illinois; hemophilia  
4 is characterized by the absence of one of the several clotting  
5 factors necessary to control bleeding; the standard care for  
6 the treatment of hemophilia is to replace the absent clotting  
7 factors necessary to control bleeding; and

8 WHEREAS, Without treatment, people with hemophilia face  
9 frequent, spontaneous bleeding episodes in their joints  
10 causing swelling in the joint, muscles, internal organs, and  
11 brain; repeated bleeding episodes in joints result in a chronic  
12 degenerative arthritic condition, which often leads to  
13 frequent hospitalizations, permanent disability, and chronic  
14 pain; bleeding episodes involving internal organs and the brain  
15 can cause permanent damage, disability, and even death; and

16 WHEREAS, Severe bleeding episodes result in lost time at  
17 work and school, decreased quality of life, and inability to  
18 perform basic living activities; and

19 WHEREAS, With proper care and access to comprehensive  
20 medical resources, persons with hemophilia can control  
21 bleeding episodes and can lead productive lives; and

22 WHEREAS, The Medical and Scientific Advisory Committee of  
23 the National Hemophilia Foundation recommends recombinant  
24 factor products as the treatment of choice for persons with  
25 hemophilia VIII and IX; and

26 WHEREAS, Visits to Hemophilia Treatment Centers reduced  
27 morbidity by 60 percent; and

28 WHEREAS, The State of Illinois is committed to the proper  
29 medical treatment of hemophilia; and

1           WHEREAS, Hemophilia and its complications are not well  
2 understood by the general public; and

3           WHEREAS, The State of Illinois encourages efforts to  
4 promote the understanding of hemophilia so that it is treated  
5 properly; therefore, be it

6           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
7 NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
8 March, 2004, and each March thereafter be designated Hemophilia  
9 Awareness Month to enhance the understanding and proper  
10 treatment of hemophilia and to encourage participation in  
11 activities to support programs to properly treat hemophilia.