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HOUSE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives recognize that Tuesday, May 18th is HIV Vaccine Awareness Day; and

WHEREAS, 46 million people around the world are living with HIV/AIDS; and

WHEREAS, The worldwide epidemic killed more than 3 million people this year and infected another 5 million with HIV; and

WHEREAS, There are more than 35,000 people living with HIV in Illinois; and

WHEREAS, Communities of color are disproportionately impacted by HIV/AIDS; and

WHEREAS, Community support for the development of an HIV vaccine is essential; and

WHEREAS, Thousands of volunteers, scientists, and health professionals are committed to finding a safe and effective HIV vaccine, and more than 12,000 individuals have already volunteered in HIV vaccine clinical trials; and

WHEREAS, We must educate Americans about the ongoing search for a vaccine to prevent the transmission of HIV and the critical need for such a vaccine; and

WHEREAS, Currently, there is no HIV vaccine available, but many scientists believe that a preventive HIV vaccine can be a reality; and

WHEREAS, A preventive HIV vaccine is a critical component of ending the AIDS pandemic; and

1           WHEREAS, A large scale HIV vaccine trial will require  
2 thousands more participants of all races and ethnicities,  
3 genders and socioeconomic backgrounds, to ensure that the  
4 vaccine is effective; therefore, be it

5           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
6 NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
7 recognize Tuesday, May 18, 2004, as HIV Vaccine Awareness Day,  
8 and commend the hard work of all scientists, community  
9 organizations, and individuals working to produce a vaccine and  
10 help bring about a world without AIDS.