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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, Illinois has developed a network of health insurance coverage options for children, working families, and those with preexisting medical conditions, including programs such as KidCare, the Comprehensive Health Insurance Plan, and the new Covering ALL KIDS Health Insurance Program; and

WHEREAS, Studies indicate that a child's access to health care improves not only the child's health, but also improves other outcomes, including education; and

WHEREAS, Estimates indicate that as many as 253,000 children in Illinois lacked health insurance coverage prior to the passage of the Covering ALL KIDS Health Insurance Act, even though half of these children met eligibility requirements for KidCare coverage; and

WHEREAS, Proper oversight of State sponsored health insurance programs is needed to ensure that health coverage is provided in an equitable and efficient manner consistent with the goals established when the programs were enacted; and

WHEREAS, Legislative oversight will help the House of Representatives to make appropriation decisions when budgets providing funding for the various public health insurance programs are pending before the House of Representatives; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that there is hereby created the Children's Health Insurance Task Force, consisting of 3 members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and 3 members appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall gather information and 2 make recommendations relating to access to quality, affordable health insurance for children in Illinois and shall examine the 3 cost effectiveness of current programs to assess whether the 4 programs are meeting goals established for the programs; and be 5 6 it further

RESOLVED, That the Task Force shall submit a report to the 7 8 General Assembly by December 31, 2006.