



SR0129

LRB095 11776 CMK 34668 r

1 SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Microbicides are a promising new prevention tool  
3 that could reduce HIV transmission among women and men in the  
4 United States and around the world; and

5 WHEREAS, Women and girls are the new face of HIV and AIDS  
6 and account for nearly half of the 39,000,000 adults living  
7 with HIV and AIDS worldwide as of 2005; and

8 WHEREAS, In the United States women of color are  
9 disproportionately affected by HIV and AIDS, representing 84%  
10 of new AIDS diagnoses among women; and

11 WHEREAS, In Illinois, African-American women represent  
12 more than 2 out of 3, or (68%), of women living with HIV; and

13 WHEREAS, More than 40,000 people in Illinois were living  
14 with HIV or AIDS in 2005; and

15 WHEREAS, The United States has the highest rates of  
16 sexually transmitted infections (STIs) of any industrialized  
17 nation, with more than 15,000,000 new STIs every year; and

18 WHEREAS, It is estimated that one in 4 sexually active  
19 young adults from ages 15 to 24 contracts an STI each year; and

1           WHEREAS, Direct medical costs associated with STIs in the  
2 United States are estimated at up to \$14,100,000,000 annually;  
3 and

4           WHEREAS, Federal government spending on HIV related  
5 medical care in the United States has more than tripled, from  
6 \$3,700,000,000 in fiscal year 1995 to \$13,200,000,000 in fiscal  
7 year 2007; and

8           WHEREAS, Microbicides may be formulated as gels, creams, or  
9 rings to inactivate, block, or otherwise interfere with the  
10 transmission of the pathogens that cause HIV and other STIs,  
11 allowing women and men to protect themselves from infection;  
12 and

13           WHEREAS, Unlike current HIV prevention methods,  
14 microbicides could allow women to both conceive children and  
15 protect themselves from HIV and STIs; and

16           WHEREAS, The microbicide field has achieved an  
17 extraordinary amount of scientific momentum with a few  
18 first-generation candidates now in large scale human trials  
19 around the world; and

20           WHEREAS, Microbicides are a classic public health product

1 for which the social benefits are high but the economic  
2 incentive for private investment is low and, like other public  
3 health products such as vaccines, public funding must fill the  
4 gap; and

5 WHEREAS, The federal government needs to make a strong  
6 commitment to microbicide research and development; and

7 WHEREAS, Three agencies, the National Institutes of Health  
8 (NIH), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC),  
9 and the United States Agency for International Development  
10 (USAID), have played important roles, further strong,  
11 well-coordinated, and visible public sector leadership is  
12 essential for the promise of microbicides to be fully realized;  
13 and

14 WHEREAS, HIV and STI prevention strategies must recognize  
15 women's unique needs and vulnerabilities if women are to have a  
16 genuine opportunity to protect themselves; and

17 WHEREAS, The best option for protection from HIV and STIs  
18 is the rapid development of new HIV-prevention technologies  
19 like microbicides; therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL  
21 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that the Senate urges the

1 United States Congress and the President of the United States  
2 to enact the Microbicide Development Act (S. 823 and H.R.  
3 1420), which would amend the Public Health Service Act to  
4 facilitate the development of microbicides for preventing the  
5 transmission of HIV and other diseases; and be it further

6       RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
7 delivered to the President and Vice President of the United  
8 States, the Speaker of the United States House of  
9 Representatives, the Majority Leader of the United States  
10 Senate, and each member of the Illinois congressional  
11 delegation.