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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, During the month of September, teens and young
3 adults are beginning a new school year; thousands of students
4 are entering high schools, colleges, and universities
5 throughout the State of Illinois; and

6 WHEREAS, In 2013 and 2014, the Illinois General Assembly
7 supported legislation to strengthen laws to punish adults for
8 furnishing alcoholic beverages to persons under the legal
9 drinking age and for knowingly making their property available
10 to teens and young adults for the purpose of underage alcohol
11 consumption; and

12 WHEREAS, Progress has been made in combating underage
13 drinking in Illinois, but young people between the ages of 15
14 and 20 who continue to illegally consume alcohol are at a
15 substantially heightened risk of death or serious injury from
16 automobile accidents, falls, drowning, fights, and other
17 hazards resulting from alcohol abuse; and

18 WHEREAS, Researchers at the University of Illinois at
19 Chicago recently found that adolescent binge drinking may
20 disrupt gene regulation and brain development in ways that
21 promote anxiety and excessive drinking behaviors; other
22 studies show that teens who start drinking before the age of 15

1 are up to 4 times more likely to meet the criteria for alcohol
2 dependence at some point in their lives than those who delay
3 drinking until age 21; and

4 WHEREAS, Over the last decade, the Federal Trade Commission
5 has maintained a consumer awareness program known as "We Don't
6 Serve Teens", highlighting the fact that the vast majority of
7 teens obtain alcohol from parents, older siblings, friends, and
8 other "social sources"; and

9 WHEREAS, The "We Don't Serve Teens" message has been
10 publicized each fall for many years in the greater Chicago area
11 by Constellation Brands Beer Division in cooperation with
12 retailers throughout the region with billboards, signage, and
13 broadcast messages; therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
15 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE
16 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that we appreciate the efforts to
17 inform the public about the "We Don't Serve Teens" initiative
18 and we encourage all parents, educators, and concerned citizens
19 in Illinois to learn about the risks of underage drinking and
20 to heed the basic message: Don't provide alcohol to teens. It's
21 unsafe. It's illegal. It's irresponsible; and be it further

22 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be

1 delivered to the Director of the Illinois Liquor Control
2 Commission and to the President of Constellation Brands Beer
3 Division.