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LRB099 21744 MST 48395 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) is a
3 term used to describe a group of diseases causing airflow
4 obstruction mainly associated with emphysema and chronic
5 bronchitis; it affects over 24 million individuals in the
6 United States and an estimated 580,000 in Illinois; and

7 WHEREAS, COPD affects an estimated 580,000 citizens of the
8 State of Illinois, with at least the same number estimated to
9 be undiagnosed; and

10 WHEREAS, COPD costs the nation an estimated \$49.9 billion
11 in direct and indirect medical costs annually from emergency
12 department visits, hospitalizations, and physician office
13 visits; and

14 WHEREAS, The Respiratory Health Association is
15 participating in statewide efforts to increase early
16 detection, improve care and treatment, and prevent and reduce
17 the prevalence of the disease; and

18 WHEREAS, There is no cure for COPD, but it can be managed
19 by taking medications, using oxygen therapy, attending
20 pulmonary rehabilitation and, in some cases, having certain
21 pulmonary procedures; and

1 WHEREAS, Research has identified a hereditary protein
2 deficiency called Alpha-1 Antitrypsin; people with this
3 deficiency tend to develop COPD despite a lack of exposure to
4 smoking and environmental triggers; and

5 WHEREAS, Education, awareness, and expansion of detection
6 and management are the best approaches to addressing COPD;
7 therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
9 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
10 declare November of 2016 as COPD Awareness Month in the State
11 of Illinois; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
13 presented to the Respiratory Health Association as a symbol of
14 our respect and esteem.