

FEB 15 2006
Laid Over Under Rule 25

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 118

BY SMITH

1
2
3 A Resolution recognizing the efforts of the Iowa
4 department of public health, other state agencies,
5 and health partners in developing the comprehensive
6 statewide obesity prevention plan Iowans Fit for
7 Life.

8 WHEREAS, the Iowa department of public health has
9 received a grant from the centers for disease control
10 and prevention of the United States department of
11 health and human services to develop a statewide
12 nutrition and physical activity plan to prevent
13 obesity; and

14 WHEREAS, the obesity rate among Iowa adults has
15 increased by 84 percent from 1990 to 2004; and

16 WHEREAS, the national center for health statistics
17 indicates the percentage of children who are
18 overweight has more than doubled since 1980; and

19 WHEREAS, today's children may be the first
20 generation to have a shorter life span than their
21 parents; and

22 WHEREAS, being overweight and obesity are
23 conditions associated with an increased risk for heart
24 disease, hypertension, high cholesterol, diabetes,
25 certain types of cancer, arthritis and orthopedic
26 problems, sleep apnea, depression, asthma, and gall
27 bladder disease; and

28 WHEREAS, Iowans pay \$783 million in health care
29 costs annually for problems associated with obesity,
30 with approximately 17 percent of such costs covered by

HR 118

1 Medicaid and Medicare; and

2 WHEREAS, being overweight and obesity are
3 conditions which have contributed to reduced life
4 expectancy, diminished quality of life, and increased
5 health care expenditures; and

6 WHEREAS, although there are several programs in
7 Iowa to promote nutrition and physical activity,
8 coordination between organizations and communities
9 needs to be improved; and

10 WHEREAS, strengthening partnerships throughout the
11 state and obtaining Iowa-specific data to identify
12 issues will maximize existing public and private
13 resources; and

14 WHEREAS, seventy-five percent of Iowa's counties,
15 (74 of 99), identified being overweight and obesity or
16 other related risk factors as a top health issue of
17 concern in their 2005 Community Health Needs
18 Assessment and Health Improvement Planning report; and

19 WHEREAS, the Iowans Fit for Life initiative will
20 help meet the goals of Healthy People 2010 and be a
21 complement to Healthy Iowans 2010 by educating,
22 promoting, and implementing goals and strategies to
23 improve healthy living in Iowans; and

24 WHEREAS, the Iowans Fit for Life partnership has
25 brought together health care providers, educators,
26 nutrition and physical activity experts, agriculture
27 and business industries, government, and local
28 communities to address the epidemic of poor nutrition
29 and inactivity; and

30 WHEREAS, the department has held nine community

1 forums, surveyed the federal supplemental nutrition
2 program for women, infants, and children (WIC) clinic
3 participants about their perceptions of being
4 overweight and obesity, conducted interviews through
5 the office of multicultural health to better
6 understand nutrition and physical activity needs
7 within the minority community, held a symposium and
8 developed workgroups to identify goals, objectives,
9 and strategies for the Iowans Fit for Life plan, and
10 established an interagency task force to provide input
11 and guidance on the grant activities; NOW THEREFORE,

12 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
13 That the House of Representatives commends and
14 supports the Iowa department of public health, other
15 state agencies, and health partners in their efforts
16 to develop "Iowans Fit for Life: Active and Eating
17 Smart" in conjunction with the centers for disease
18 control and prevention, which will serve as a
19 comprehensive statewide obesity prevention plan that
20 will lay the groundwork for implementing community-
21 based approaches that will ultimately improve the
22 health of all Iowans.

23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30