



RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING SCHOOL HEALTH CENTERS

Whereas, adequate physical and mental health is immeasurably important to the overall well-being and optimal academic achievement of our school-aged youth; and

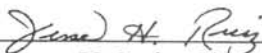
Whereas, all school-age youth in Illinois deserve access to comprehensive health care; and

Whereas, School Health Centers provide quality services that reduce potential for high-risk behaviors at an early age, prevent the need for acute care in the future, give students the opportunity to develop caring relationships with a team of health professionals to address their physical and mental health needs and promote healthy behavior; and


Whereas, a growing number of School Health Centers in Illinois serve elementary schools, intervening as early as possible with primary prevention strategies to promote healthy child development and prevent the problems affecting so many adolescents; and

Whereas, research has demonstrated that School Health Centers can contribute to fewer school absences, higher compliance with required immunizations and physical exams, decreased smoking, fewer hospitalizations and emergency room visits, and a decline in teen pregnancy,


Therefore, be it Resolved by the Illinois State Board of Education that School Health Centers in Illinois are hereby recognized for their success in providing primary and preventive health care services to students while reducing lost school time, removing financial barriers to care and promoting family involvement.




Jesse H. Ruiz, Chairman




Christopher J. Ward, Vice Chairman



Vinni M. Hall, Secretary



Andrea S. Brown, Member




Dean E. Clark, Member



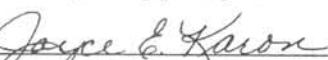
David L. Fields, Member



Edward J. Geppert, Jr., Member



Brenda J. Holmes, Member



Joyce E. Karon, Member