

FEB 20 2006

Laid Over Under Rule 25

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 125

BY ALONS, KURTENBACH, CARROLL, and WATTS

A Resolution urging the United States Congress to repeal legislation which preempts state laws relating to the mercury content of vaccines.

WHEREAS, the United States Congress enacted as part of the Department of Defense Appropriations bill for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, Pub. L. No. 109-148, the Public Readiness and Emergency

Preparedness Act; and

WHEREAS, the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act grants immunity to drug companies from liability for injuries caused by their products if the Secretary of Health and Human Services declares these products to be covered countermeasures; and

WHEREAS, the legislation preempts any state law which conflicts with a covered countermeasure; and

WHEREAS, in the case of a covered countermeasure which is a vaccine, the legislation preempts state legislation prohibiting or limiting the formulation of the vaccine including the use of the mercury-containing preservative thimerosal; and

WHEREAS, Iowa law limits the use of mercury in vaccines; NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, That the House of Representatives urges the United States Congress to pass, and the President to sign, legislation repealing the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act in order to allow Iowa and other states to limit the use of mercury-containing

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1 preservatives in vaccines and to continue to protect
2 and follow the will of their own citizens.

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