

1 HJR290  
2 139148-1  
3 By Representative McClurkin  
4 RFD: Rules  
5 First Read: 15-MAR-12

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8 RECOGNIZING NOVEMBER 2012 AS COPD AWARENESS MONTH.

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10 WHEREAS, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease  
11 (COPD), also known as chronic bronchitis and emphysema, is the  
12 third leading cause of death in the United States and is the  
13 only one of the top five causes of death whose prevalence and  
14 death rate are rising; and

15 WHEREAS, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease is a  
16 chronic and progressive disease that affects over 24 million  
17 individuals in the U.S., half of whom have not been properly  
18 diagnosed; and

19 WHEREAS, a diagnostic test for COPD, known as  
20 spirometry is available for office use, allowing early  
21 diagnosis of COPD yet many patients suffering with COPD are  
22 not diagnosed until they have reached an advanced stage; and

23 WHEREAS, the major risk factor for COPD is smoking;  
24 other risk factors include environmental exposure to air  
25 pollution, industrial irritants and burned biomass fuels; and

26 WHEREAS, COPD can also result from genetic  
27 conditions, such as Alpha-1 Antitrypsin Deficiency; and

1           WHEREAS, COPD is considered to be the second leading  
2           cause of disability in the nation; and

3           WHEREAS, the annual cost to the nation in 2010 is  
4           estimated to be \$49.9 billion; and

5           WHEREAS, increased public awareness, early detection  
6           and treatment are crucial in the prevention or slowing the  
7           progression of lung disease and can lead to reduced costs and  
8           better quality of life for our residents; now therefore,

9           BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
10          HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we do hereby recognize  
11          November 2012, as COPD Awareness Month throughout the state  
12          and encourage all residents of Alabama to learn more about the  
13          prevention and treatment of COPD.