

HR 8061

2017

House Resolution

A resolution recognizing May 2017 as "American Stroke Month" in Florida.

WHEREAS, stroke is the fifth leading cause of death in the United States, killing almost 130,000 people each year, including 29,626 Floridians from 2013 through 2015, and

WHEREAS, stroke is a leading cause of long-term disability and the leading preventable cause of disability in the United States, and

WHEREAS, nearly 80 million Americans have high blood pressure, a major controllable risk factor for stroke, and rates of high blood pressure among African Americans are among the highest of any population in the world, and

WHEREAS, more than half of the population of the United State is unaware of the risk factors for a stroke and the signs and symptoms of an impending stroke, and

WHEREAS, the American Stroke Association's "Together to End Stroke" initiative helps people learn how to recognize and respond to stroke warning signs using the acronym "FAST," in which "F" stands for face drooping, "A" stands for arm weakness, "S" stands for speech difficulty, and "T" stands for time to call 911 if any signs are present, and

WHEREAS, during May 2017, the goal of the "Together to End Stroke" initiative is to inform Americans that strokes are

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26 largely preventable, treatable, and beatable and to increase
27 awareness and inspire action with respect to prevention, acute
28 treatment, and post-stroke rehabilitation, and

29 WHEREAS, new and effective treatments have been developed
30 to minimize the severity and damaging effects of strokes, but
31 much more research is needed, NOW, THEREFORE,

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33 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
34 Florida:

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36 That May 2017 is recognized as "American Stroke Month" in
37 Florida and that all residents of this state are urged to
38 familiarize themselves with the risk factors, warning signs, and
39 symptoms associated with stroke, and, at the first sign of a
40 stroke, to dial 911, so that we may begin to reduce the
41 devastating effects of stroke on our population and all
42 Floridians may live stronger, healthier lives.