

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 30

BY SENATOR MORRELL

A RESOLUTION

To recognize Wednesday, March 21, 2018, as Stop the Bleed Day at the Louisiana State Capitol.

WHEREAS, trauma is the leading cause of death in the United States for people ages one to forty-four, and the fourth leading cause of death for all ages; and

WHEREAS, the state of Louisiana loses over four thousand citizens per year to traumatic injury, a death rate that is twenty-four percent higher than that of the United States as a whole; and

WHEREAS, the state of Louisiana has the highest homicide mortality rate of any state in the United States; and

WHEREAS, uncontrolled bleeding is the leading cause of preventable death from traumatic injury; and

WHEREAS, when a person is losing blood, every minute counts, and the Stop the Bleed campaign of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security is informing Americans about vital measures to aid trauma victims during the initial minutes after an injury; and

WHEREAS, the Stop the Bleed campaign was created in the wake of the 2012 mass shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School; a panel of experts was convened, among them representatives of the American College of Surgeons including the late trauma surgeon Dr. Norman McSwain of Louisiana; and their review led to the development of the Stop the Bleed campaign; and

WHEREAS, in Louisiana, implementation of the program is being guided by trauma surgeons and emergency physicians from University Medical Center, Tulane School of Medicine, Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center in New Orleans, and Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center in Shreveport, including members of the Louisiana Chapter of the American College of Surgeons and the Committee on Trauma in conjunction with the Spirit of Charity Foundation; and

WHEREAS, because a trauma victim can bleed to death within five minutes and before professional emergency care arrives, the program teaches citizens bleeding-control methods developed by the military and first responders; and

WHEREAS, the Stop the Bleed campaign also provides bleeding-control kits that include such tools as tourniquets, dressings, and topical hemostatic agents that can be used to provide swift assistance at the scene of a mass casualty or other incident; these kits can be affixed to walls in public places, much like the cardiac defibrillators with which many modern buildings are furnished; and

WHEREAS, the Stop the Bleed campaign is empowering citizens across the country and the state of Louisiana to save lives in situations when time is the difference between life and death.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize Wednesday, March 21, 2018, as Stop the Bleed Day at the Louisiana State Capitol, and encourages all citizens of Louisiana to participate in the initiative, support the placement of bleeding-control kits in schools and in public and private buildings, and learn more about the importance of bleeding-control measures to save lives in their communities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Dr. Jennifer Avegno and Dr. Rebecca Schroll at Stop the Bleed, New Orleans.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE