

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 56

By Burchett

A RESOLUTION to support asthma awareness and encourage coaches throughout the State of Tennessee to participate in the “Winning with Asthma” training program.

WHEREAS, asthma, according to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), is a life-threatening, chronic lung disease which has no preventative measures or cure, and can significantly impact the quality of life of those it affects; and

WHEREAS, 19.8 million American people are currently diagnosed with asthma, 6.5 million of which are children; these numbers represent 7.2% of all non-institutionalized adults and 8.9% of all children, according to a 2005 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) report; and

WHEREAS, the 2002 CDC and EPA report on health care costs and lost productivity states that asthma accounted for 1.9 million emergency room visits, 484,000 hospitalizations, 14 million missed school days, 4,261 deaths, and costs totaling \$14 billion; and

WHEREAS, medical experts at the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, the CDC, and the EPA, agree that individuals with asthma can lead quality, productive lives if they keep their asthma under control by following a structured medical management plan which includes: consultation and follow-up with medical providers, appropriate use of medications, avoidance of triggers for asthma attack, and monitoring certain physical conditions and readings; and

WHEREAS, in 2008, the Allergy and Asthma Foundation of America named Knoxville the “Asthma Capital” of the United States for the third time; and

WHEREAS, while engaging in asthma awareness activity for the State, Tennessee’s Lieutenant Governor led an expansion of the program “Winning with Asthma”; and

WHEREAS, "Winning with Asthma" is a full-time online asthma training program aimed at coaches; originated by the Department of Health in Utah and Minnesota and funded by the CDC, 8,000 coaches have received training in asthma awareness; and

WHEREAS, according to the program, on every sports team with at least fifteen athletes, one will have asthma which may not be diagnosed; and

WHEREAS, coaches who are active partners in the "Winning with Asthma" program, receive an educational booklet, an asthma coaches clipboard, and certificate upon completion of the online training; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that this Body supports a committed effort to support and encourage all coaches in the State of Tennessee to participate in the "Winning with Asthma" program encouraging them to lead the way in the effort to help raise public awareness for asthma, thereby leading to a reduction in lost educational time, medical costs, and death.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.