

By Senator Peadar

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Senate Resolution

A resolution supporting education, screening,
and aggressive medical treatment to help
prevent diabetes.

WHEREAS, diabetes is a chronic and serious disease for
which there is currently no cure, and

WHEREAS, individuals who have type 1 diabetes are most
often children or young adults who are unable to produce or
properly use insulin, and

WHEREAS, individuals having type 2 diabetes, or
adult-onset diabetes, cannot produce enough insulin or
properly use insulin and often do not exhibit symptoms in the
early stages of the disease, and

WHEREAS, patients suffering from diabetes have
long-term complications, including high blood sugar levels,
blindness, lower extremity amputation, heart disease, kidney
failure, and premature death, and

WHEREAS, in recent years, the number of individuals
diagnosed with diabetes has increased dramatically, and

WHEREAS, 9 out of 10 individuals who are newly
diagnosed with adult-onset diabetes also suffer from obesity,
and

WHEREAS, America faces a diabetic epidemic wherein an
estimated 20.8 million Americans nationwide live with
diabetes, and

WHEREAS, diabetes is the sixth leading cause of death
in Florida, with the highest concentration of deaths located
in the panhandle of Florida and central Florida, and

WHEREAS, research has shown that some ethnic groups are
disproportionately affected by diabetes compared to the

1 | general population, which is of great concern in Florida
2 | because more than one-third of the state's population is
3 | African-American, Hispanic, or Native American, and

4 | WHEREAS, the earlier that a person is diagnosed with
5 | diabetes and receives treatment, the better the person's
6 | chances are for avoiding the complications of the disease, and

7 | WHEREAS, the first line of treatment recommended by
8 | health care standards is diet and exercise, and a healthful
9 | diet and loss of excess weight can have a positive effect on
10 | the human body's ability to fight the disease, and

11 | WHEREAS, traditionally those persons who are at the
12 | highest risk include older individuals, those who have a
13 | family history of the disease, and those who are overweight,
14 | and

15 | WHEREAS, in recent years there has been an alarming
16 | increase in the growing number of younger people who are being
17 | diagnosed with diabetes, which is attributed to lifestyle and
18 | excessive body mass, NOW, THEREFORE,

19 |
20 | Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

21 |
22 | That health care providers in this state are urged to
23 | adopt generally recognized clinical practice guidelines, such
24 | as goals from the American Diabetes Association,
25 | recommendations and standards that identify the reduction of
26 | body mass index (BMI), cardiovascular risk issues, and
27 | glycemic control as key factors in managing diabetes.

28 | Be it further resolved that health care providers are
29 | strongly encouraged to inform patients that proper nutrition
30 | and exercise may reduce their chances of contracting diabetes.
31 |