

By Senator Hill

1-01027-09

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Senate Resolution

A resolution urging support of the American Stroke Association's "Power to End Stroke" campaign and recognizing May 2009 as "Power to End Stroke Month" in Florida.

WHEREAS, stroke is the third leading cause of death in the United States, striking about 700,000 Americans each year and killing 150,000, and

WHEREAS, stroke is also a leading cause of serious long-term disability in the United States, with more than 1.1 million adults experiencing functional limitations or difficulty with activities of daily living resulting from stroke, and

WHEREAS, on the average, a stroke occurs every 45 seconds in the United States and takes a life every 3 minutes, and

WHEREAS, the estimated direct and indirect costs of stroke in the United States this year will be more than \$62 billion, and

WHEREAS, the majority of Americans are unaware of their risk factors for a stroke and are unaware of the signs and symptoms of an impending stroke, and

WHEREAS, statistics show that African Americans have almost twice the risk of a first stroke compared to Caucasians, primarily because of their increased risk of hypertension, high cholesterol, and diabetes, and

WHEREAS, the American Stroke Association in 2008 launched the "Power to End Stroke" campaign, the goal of which is to educate and empower African Americans, as well as those of other ethnic groups, to fight stroke in their communities, NOW,

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30 THEREFORE,

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32 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

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34 That the Senate recognizes May 2009 as "Power to End Stroke
35 Month" in Florida and urges all residents of this state to
36 recognize that stroke must be taken seriously in order to reduce
37 its risks.

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senate urges all Floridians
39 to support the American Stroke Association's "Power to End
40 Stroke" campaign by becoming familiar with the warning signs,
41 symptoms, and risk factors associated with stroke and living
42 stronger, healthier lives.