

HR 9075

2012

1 House Resolution

2 A resolution recognizing February 25, 2012, as "COPD
3 Awareness Day" in the State of Florida.

4
5 WHEREAS, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD),
6 which includes chronic bronchitis, emphysema, or both, is the
7 third leading cause of death in the United States, and, unlike
8 many diseases yielding to advances in medicine, COPD death rates
9 are not declining, and

10 WHEREAS, COPD is a chronic progressive disease that impacts
11 an estimated 1.8 million residents of Florida and affects 24
12 million individuals in the United States, as many as half of
13 whom remain undiagnosed, and

14 WHEREAS, the primary risk factor for COPD is smoking, which
15 accounts for as many as 90 percent of COPD-related deaths, and

16 WHEREAS, other risk factors for COPD include environmental
17 exposure, air pollution, second-hand smoke, a history of
18 childhood respiratory infections, and alpha-1 antitrypsin
19 deficiency, and

20 WHEREAS, the healthcare cost of COPD in Florida was \$1.3
21 billion in 2007, with more than 63,000 hospitalizations due to
22 the disease, and

23 WHEREAS, the annual cost to the nation for COPD is nearly
24 \$50 billion, including \$29.5 billion in direct healthcare
25 expenditures, \$8 billion in indirect morbidity costs, and \$12.4
26 billion in indirect mortality costs, and

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27 WHEREAS, early COPD screening and detection is critical, as
28 most people with COPD are not diagnosed until they have already
29 lost half of their lung function, and

30 WHEREAS, there is no cure for COPD, but proper management
31 of the disease can lead to an improved quality of life and self-
32 sufficiency for the patient, as well as slow the damage to the
33 heart and lungs, NOW, THEREFORE,

34

35 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
36 Florida:

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38 That February 25, 2012, is recognized as "COPD Awareness
39 Day" in the State of Florida.