

By Senator Hukill

8-00079B-14

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Senate Resolution

A resolution recognizing May 2014 as "American Stroke Month" in Florida.

WHEREAS, stroke is the fourth leading cause of death in the United States, striking more than 700,000 Americans each year and killing 129,000, including 8,324 Floridians, 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 40 seconds and takes a life every 4 minutes in the United States, and

WHEREAS, this year, the estimated direct and indirect costs of stroke in the United States will be more than \$73.7 billion, and

WHEREAS, many Americans are unaware of their risk factors for a stroke and 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, in part because of their increased risk of high blood pressure and diabetes, and

WHEREAS, the American Stroke Association's "Together to End Stroke" initiative, which begins on May 1 with the American Stroke "Day of Action" and continues year-round, encourages Americans to learn their personal stroke risk, memorize and share the stroke warning signs, and call 911 at the first sign of a stroke, and

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30 WHEREAS, new and effective treatments have been developed
31 to treat and minimize the severity and damaging effects of
32 strokes, but much more research is needed, NOW, THEREFORE,
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34 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:
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36 That May 2014 is recognized as "American Stroke Month" in
37 Florida and that all residents of this state are urged to
38 familiarize themselves with the risk factors associated with
39 stroke and the warning signs and symptoms of stroke and, at the
40 first sign of a stroke, to dial 911 so that we might begin to
41 reduce the devastating effects of stroke on our population, so
42 that Floridians may live stronger, healthier lives.