

HR 9003

2015

House Resolution

1 A resolution recognizing May 2015 as "American Stroke
2 Month" in Florida.
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5 WHEREAS, stroke is the fourth leading cause of death in the
6 United States, striking more than 795,000 Americans each year
7 and killing almost 130,000, including a total of 25,310
8 Floridians from 2011 through 2013, and

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

13 WHEREAS, on average, a stroke occurs every 40 seconds and
14 takes a life every 4 minutes in the United States, and

15 WHEREAS, many Americans are unaware of their risk factors
16 for a stroke and of the signs and symptoms of an impending
17 stroke, and

18 WHEREAS, statistics show that African Americans have almost
19 twice the risk of a first stroke compared to Caucasians, due in
20 part to their increased risk of high blood pressure and
21 diabetes, and

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

27 | of a stroke, and

28 | WHEREAS, one in three Americans cannot recall any stroke
29 | warning signs or symptoms, and

30 | WHEREAS, the American Stroke Association's "Together to End
31 | Stroke" initiative helps people learn how to recognize and
32 | respond to stroke warning signs using the acronym "FAST," in
33 | which "F" stands for face drooping, "A" stands for arm weakness,
34 | "S" stands for speech difficulty, and "T" stands for time to
35 | call 911 if any signs are present, and

36 | WHEREAS, new and effective treatments have been developed
37 | to treat and minimize the severity and damaging effects of
38 | strokes, but much more research is needed, NOW, THEREFORE,

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40 | Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
41 | Florida:

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43 | That May 2015 is recognized as "American Stroke Month" in
44 | Florida and that all residents of this state are urged to
45 | familiarize themselves with the risk factors, warning signs, and
46 | symptoms associated with stroke and to dial 911 at the first
47 | sign of a stroke in order to reduce the devastating effects of
48 | stroke and to ensure that Floridians live stronger, healthier
49 | lives.