

By Senator Hukill

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1 Senate Resolution

2 A resolution recognizing May 2017 as "American Stroke
3 Month" in Florida.

4
5 WHEREAS, stroke is a leading cause of serious long-term
6 disability and the fourth leading cause of death in the United
7 States, killing more than 130,000 people nationwide and 29,600
8 in Florida, and

9 WHEREAS, stroke prevalence is projected to increase by 20.5
10 percent between 2016 and 2030, and the direct medical costs for
11 treating stroke are expected to almost triple during that
12 period, from \$71.6 billion to \$184.1 billion, and

13 WHEREAS, nearly 80 million Americans have high blood
14 pressure, a major controllable risk factor for stroke, including
15 44 percent of African-American adults, an incidence that is
16 among the highest percentage of hypertension in any population
17 in the world, and

18 WHEREAS, 58 percent of Americans don't know they are at
19 risk for stroke, and one in three cannot recall any stroke
20 warning signs or symptoms, which may include sudden numbness or
21 weakness of the face, arm, or leg, especially on one side of the
22 body; sudden confusion or difficulty in speaking or
23 understanding; sudden difficulty in seeing in one or both eyes;
24 sudden difficulty in walking; dizziness; loss of balance or
25 coordination; and a sudden severe headache with no known cause,
26 and

27 WHEREAS, the most common signs and symptoms of stroke can
28 be remembered by the acronym F.A.S.T., which stands for face
29 drooping, arm weakness, speech difficulty, and time to call 9-1-

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30 1, and

31 WHEREAS, on May 1, 2017, the American Stroke Association
32 will celebrate its Day of Action as part of American Stroke
33 Month and as part of its year-round initiative, "Together to End
34 Stroke," launched in collaboration with the American Heart
35 Association, which brings stroke awareness to the forefront of
36 Americans' minds and encourages people to memorize and share the
37 stroke warning signs and call 9-1-1 at the first sign of a
38 stroke, and

39 WHEREAS, new and effective treatments have been developed
40 to treat and minimize the severity and damaging effects of
41 strokes, but much more research is needed, NOW, THEREFORE,

42
43 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

44
45 That May 2017 is recognized as "American Stroke Month" in
46 Florida and that all residents of this state are urged to
47 familiarize themselves with the risk factors, warning signs, and
48 symptoms associated with stroke.

49 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the residents of this state are
50 encouraged to call 9-1-1 at the first sign of a stroke in order
51 to reduce the devastating effects of stroke and to ensure that
52 Floridians may live stronger, healthier lives.