HLS 17RS-2045 ORIGINAL

2017 Regular Session

1

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 57

BY REPRESENTATIVE JIMMY HARRIS

SPECIAL DAY/WEEK/MONTH: Recognizes May 2017 as American Stroke Month

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2	To recognize May 2017 as American Stroke Month.
3	WHEREAS, stroke is a leading cause of serious long-term disability and is the fifth
4	leading cause of death in the United States, killing nearly 133,000 people each year; and
5	WHEREAS, projections show that by 2030, an additional 3.4 million U.S. adults
6	eighteen and older will have had a stroke, a 20.5% increase since 2012, with the highest
7	increase for Hispanic men; and
8	WHEREAS, the medical costs for treating stroke are expected to triple, from \$71.6
9	billion to \$184.1 billion, by 2030; and
10	WHEREAS, more than 85 million Americans have high blood pressure, which is the
11	leading controllable risk factor for stroke; and
12	WHEREAS, in the U.S., the stroke mortality rate increased by 3% between 2014 and
13	2015, after years of decline; and
14	WHEREAS, the F.A.S.T. acronym helps people to remember and respond to the
15	warning signs and symptoms of stroke: Face drooping, Arm weakness, Speech difficulty,
16	Time to call emergency services; and
17	WHEREAS, additional stroke warning signs and symptoms include sudden
18	numbness or weakness of the face, arm, or leg, especially on one side of the body, sudden
19	confusion, trouble speaking or understanding, sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes,
20	sudden trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination, and sudden severe
21	headaches with no known cause; and

1 WHEREAS, new and effective treatments have been developed which, if 2 administered promptly, can treat and minimize the severity and damaging effect of strokes; 3 and 4 WHEREAS, much more research and education is needed to help Americans prevent 5 and treat strokes; and 6 WHEREAS, during stroke month, the American Stroke Association's Together to 7 End Stroke initiative encourages Americans year-round to manage their blood pressure, 8 memorize and share the stroke warning signs, and call 911 at the first sign of a stroke. 9 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby 10 recognize May 2017 as American Stroke Month and hereby urges all citizens of the state to 11 familiarize themselves with the risk factors associated with stroke, to recognize the warning 12 signs and symptoms of stroke and, on first sign of stroke, to dial 911 immediately so that we

DIGEST

might begin to reduce the devastating effects of strokes on the citizens of our great state.

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HCR 57 Original 2017 Regular Session

Jimmy Harris

Recognizes May 2017 as American Stroke Month.

13