

2018 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 240

BY REPRESENTATIVE PIERRE

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health to raise awareness concerning the risks posed by atrial fibrillation and stroke.

WHEREAS, according to the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute, atrial fibrillation is the most common type of arrhythmia; and

WHEREAS, while an estimated two million seven hundred thousand to six million one hundred thousand people in the United States have atrial fibrillation, this number is expected to increase with the aging of the population; and

WHEREAS, risk factors for atrial fibrillation include high blood pressure, heart failure, diabetes, advanced age, hyperthyroidism, and heart disease; and

WHEREAS, those with atrial fibrillation have a risk of stroke that is four times greater than those without, and strokes caused by complications from atrial fibrillation tend to be more severe than strokes with other underlying causes; and

WHEREAS, stroke is the fifth leading cause of death in the United States resulting in one person in the United States dying from stroke every four minutes; and

WHEREAS, stroke is the leading cause of long-term disability and stroke survivors are most likely to become disabled and experience difficulties with daily living and activities; and

WHEREAS, the total annual cost of stroke in the United States is thirty-four billion dollars, which includes direct healthcare costs and lost productivity; and

WHEREAS, atrial fibrillation is a serious health issue deserving attention from state health officials; and

WHEREAS, an increase in community awareness of atrial fibrillation and its complications can improve the likelihood that people with atrial fibrillation will seek the treatment they need before suffering from devastating consequences.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health to raise awareness about the risks posed by atrial fibrillation and stroke, as well as the availability of treatment options.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES