

1 SJR80
2 151987-2
3 By Senator Blackwell
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 18-APR-13

1 SJR80

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4 ENROLLED, SJR80,

5 URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH TO INCREASE
6 PUBLIC AWARENESS OF RISKS OF NONVALVULAR ATRIAL FIBRILLATION.

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8 WHEREAS, atrial fibrillation (AF), the most common
9 type of irregular heartbeat, consists of two types,
10 nonvalvular AF (NVAF) and valvular AF; and

11 WHEREAS, NVAF makes up approximately 95 percent of
12 AF, affecting an estimated 5.8 million people in the U.S.; and

13 WHEREAS, individuals with NVAF have five times
14 greater risk of stroke, and about 15 percent of strokes are
15 due to NVAF; and

16 WHEREAS, stroke is the fourth leading cause of death
17 as well as a leading cause of long-term disability in the
18 U.S., accounting for 1 in every 19 deaths in 2009; and

19 WHEREAS, in 2010, the total cost of cardiovascular
20 diseases in the U.S. was estimated at \$444 billion, and
21 treatment of these diseases accounts for about \$1 of every \$6
22 spent on health care in this country; and

23 WHEREAS, as of 2005, NVAF alone cost an estimated
24 \$6.65 billion per year, with nearly 75 percent of those direct
25 and indirect costs associated with hospitalization; and

1 WHEREAS, NVAF is a serious health issue deserving
2 attention from state health officials; an increase in
3 community awareness of NVAF can improve the likelihood that
4 people with NVAF will seek the treatment they need before
5 suffering from devastating consequences; now therefore,

6 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
7 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That in order to improve public
8 health and ultimately save taxpayer dollars, we hereby urge
9 the Department of Public Health to increase public awareness
10 of the risks posed by nonvalvular atrial fibrillation and
11 stroke and the availability of treatment options.

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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

Speaker of the House of Representatives

SJR80
Senate 02-MAY-13
I hereby certify that the within Senate Joint Resolution
originated in and was adopted by the Senate.

Patrick Harris
Secretary

House of Representatives
Adopted: 07-MAY-13

By: Senator Blackwell