

Senate Resolution 500

By: Senators Butler of the 55th, Harrell of the 40th, Merritt of the 9th, Halpern of the 39th, Anderson of the 43rd and others

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing February 1, 2024, as Wear Red Day; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death in women, claiming more
3 lives than all forms of cancer combined, and yet only 44 percent of women recognize that
4 cardiovascular disease is their greatest health threat; and
- 5 WHEREAS, among females 20 years and older, nearly 45 percent are living with some form
6 of cardiovascular disease, and less than half of women entering pregnancy in the United
7 States have optimal cardiovascular health; and
- 8 WHEREAS, cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of maternal death in the United
9 States, or more simply put, heart disease is the No. 1 killer of new moms; and
- 10 WHEREAS, overall, 10 to 20 percent of women will have a health issue during pregnancy,
11 and the presence of high blood pressure, preeclampsia, or gestational diabetes during
12 pregnancy greatly increases a woman's risk for developing cardiovascular disease later in
13 life; and

14 WHEREAS, most cardiac and stroke events can be prevented through education and lifestyle
15 changes such as moving more, eating smart, and managing blood pressure; and

16 WHEREAS, in 2020, stroke caused the deaths of 90,627 females, approximately 56.5 percent
17 of total stroke deaths; and

18 WHEREAS, women are often less likely to receive bystander CPR because rescuers fear
19 accusations of inappropriate touching and sexual assault or potentially injuring the victim;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, there are significant biological differences between men and women, and
22 clinical trials have not always adequately enrolled women or analyzed sex-specific
23 differences in the data; as of 2020, only 38 percent of cardiovascular clinical research trial
24 participants are women; and

25 WHEREAS, since 2004, the American Heart Association's Go Red for Women® movement
26 has addressed the awareness and clinical care gaps of women's greatest health threat,
27 cardiovascular disease, and on the cusp of the American Heart Association's 100th
28 anniversary, it continues to make bold moves to save lives and pioneer scientific discoveries.

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
30 recognize February 1, 2024, as Wear Red Day and encourage all citizens to raise awareness
31 about cardiovascular disease as well as show their support for women and the fight against
32 heart disease by wearing the color red.

33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
34 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the public and the
35 press.