

Regular Session, 2010

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 112

BY REPRESENTATIVE GIROD JACKSON

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To recognize the month of April as Foot Health Awareness Month.

WHEREAS, diabetes is a disease that affects the body's ability to produce and use insulin in amounts sufficient to control blood sugar levels; and

WHEREAS, diabetes affects twenty-three million six hundred thousand Americans each year and, according to the American Diabetes Association, costs one hundred seventy-four billion dollars in the United States each year, with approximately one million six hundred thousand new cases being diagnosed each year; and

WHEREAS, people with any type of diabetes can develop blindness, heart disease and stroke, kidney disease, and nervous system disease (neuropathy); and

WHEREAS, diabetes is the leading cause of new cases of blindness among adults of age twenty to seventy-four, and is also the leading cause of kidney failure; and

WHEREAS, sixty to seventy percent of people with diabetes have mild to severe forms of nervous system damage; and

WHEREAS, adults with diabetes have heart disease death rates two to four times higher than adults without diabetes; and

WHEREAS, the complications of diabetes cause an alarming number of victims to lose a leg or a foot, at a rate calculated to equal one loss every thirty seconds worldwide, and experts estimate that eighty-five percent of these amputations could have been avoided through comprehensive diabetes control and patient education; and

WHEREAS, raising awareness of the impact of complications from diabetes will play a key role in educating others on the importance of prevention and treatment, resulting in better health for all individuals in the state of Louisiana and throughout the nation; and

WHEREAS, providing access to prevention, detection, and treatment of complications from diabetes will save many lives and also will have the effect of saving money.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize the month of April as Foot Health Awareness Month.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby encourage all health care providers, insurers, and purchasers to join in support of awareness and education regarding diabetes, its complications, and proper medical management.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the American Podiatric Medical Association.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE