

113TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. RES. 237

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives with respect to childhood stroke and recognizing May 2013 as “National Pediatric Stroke Awareness Month”.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 23, 2013

Mr. HIMES (for himself, Ms. LEE of California, and Mrs. BEATTY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

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## RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives with respect to childhood stroke and recognizing May 2013 as “National Pediatric Stroke Awareness Month”.

Whereas a stroke, also known as cerebrovascular disease, is an acute neurologic injury that occurs when the blood supply to a part of the brain is interrupted by a clot in the artery or a burst of the artery;

Whereas a stroke is a medical emergency that can cause permanent neurologic damage or even death if not promptly diagnosed and treated;

Whereas stroke occurs in approximately 1 out of every 3,500 live births, and affects nearly 5 out of every 100,000 children age 19 and under each year;

- Whereas a stroke can occur before birth;
- Whereas stroke is among the top 12 causes of death for children between the ages of 1 and 14 in the United States;
- Whereas between 20 percent and 40 percent of children die as a result of a stroke;
- Whereas stroke recurs in 10 percent of children who have previously experienced a stroke;
- Whereas the death rate for children who experience a stroke before the age of 1 year is the highest out of all child age groups;
- Whereas treatment of stroke in adults using thrombolytic therapy within 3 to 6 hours of the onset of symptoms is the cornerstone of acute stroke treatment, but thrombolytic therapy is generally not recommended in children;
- Whereas approximately 60 percent of infants and children who have a pediatric stroke will have serious, permanent neurological disabilities, including paralysis, seizures, speech and vision problems, and attention, learning, and behavioral difficulties;
- Whereas those disabilities may require ongoing physical therapy and surgeries;
- Whereas the permanent health concerns and treatments resulting from strokes that occur during childhood and young adulthood have a considerable impact on children, families, and society;
- Whereas not enough is known about the cause, treatment, and prevention of pediatric stroke;
- Whereas medical research is the only means by which the people of the United States can identify and develop ef-

fective treatment and prevention strategies for pediatric stroke; and

Whereas early diagnosis and treatment of pediatric stroke greatly improves the chances that the affected child will recover and not experience a recurrence: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2               (1) recognizes “National Pediatric Stroke  
3       Awareness Month”;

4               (2) urges the people of the United States to  
5       support the efforts, programs, services, and advocacy  
6       of organizations that work to enhance public aware-  
7       ness of pediatric stroke;

8               (3) supports the work of the National Institutes  
9       of Health in pursuit of medical progress on the mat-  
10       ter of pediatric stroke; and

11              (4) urges continued coordination and coopera-  
12       tion between the Federal Government, State and  
13       local governments, researchers, families, and the  
14       public to improve treatments and prognoses for chil-  
15       dren who suffer strokes.

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