

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 681

WHEREAS, On behalf of the citizens of Texas, the Texas Senate is pleased to join the American Stroke Association, a division of the American Heart Association, in observing May of 2003 as American Stroke Month in Texas; and

WHEREAS, The theme for American Stroke Month 2003 is "Time = Brain"; observation of the month offers advocates for stroke awareness an opportunity to educate the public and policymakers about the devastating effects of stroke; and

WHEREAS, Every 45 seconds, someone in America has a stroke, and every three minutes, someone dies of one; strokes are the third-leading cause of death in the United States, striking about 700,000 Americans each year; and

WHEREAS, Stroke is a leading cause of serious long-term disability, and there are about 4.7 million stroke survivors today; the chance of having a stroke before age 70 is one in 20 for both men and women, and strokes lead to the death and disability of more than 9,800 Texans each year; and

WHEREAS, The majority of Americans are not aware of their risk factors for a stroke, nor are they aware of the signs and symptoms of an impending stroke; and

WHEREAS, Warning signs of stroke include sudden numbness or weakness of the face, arm, or leg, especially on one side of the body; sudden confusion or trouble speaking or understanding; sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes; sudden trouble walking, dizziness, or loss of balance or coordination; and sudden severe headache with no known cause; and

WHEREAS, New and effective treatments have been developed to minimize the severity and damaging effects of strokes, such as t-PA, a clot-busting drug to be administered within three hours of the onset of symptoms; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 78th Legislature, hereby declare May of 2003 American Stroke Month in Texas and urge all Texans to familiarize themselves with the warning signs, symptoms, and risk factors associated with stroke so we might begin to reduce the devastating toll that stroke takes on our state.

Ellis

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on April 29, 2003.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate