

By: Thompson

H.R. No. 509

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Every 45 seconds, on average, someone in the United
2 States suffers from a stroke; in fact, each year about 700,000
3 Americans suffer a new or recurrent stroke; and

4 WHEREAS, These figures are especially alarming considering
5 that stroke is the third leading cause of death in the United
6 States, ranking behind only diseases of the heart and cancer; in
7 2003, stroke accounted for one of every 15 deaths in the United
8 States, and in 2002, Texas ranked 13th among the states with the
9 highest age-adjusted stroke death rates, with a rate of
10 approximately 62.5 deaths per 100,000 in population; and

11 WHEREAS, Even for those who survive an initial stroke, the
12 aftermath poses serious risk of recurrence, and recovery is
13 difficult; 22 percent of men and 25 percent of women who have an
14 initial stroke die within a year, and stroke is the leading cause of
15 serious, long-term disability in the United States; and

16 WHEREAS, Regrettably, certain ethnic groups are more likely
17 to suffer from stroke than others; African Americans generally have
18 almost twice the risk of first-ever stroke compared with white
19 Americans, and African Americans between the ages of 35 and 54 have
20 four times the relative risk for stroke; and

21 WHEREAS, Despite the prevalence and serious consequences of
22 stroke, the majority of Americans are not aware of their risk
23 factors for a stroke, nor are they aware of the signs and symptoms
24 of an impending stroke, such as sudden numbness or weakness of the

1 face, arm, or leg; sudden trouble speaking or seeing in one or both
2 eyes; sudden dizziness or loss of balance and coordination; and
3 sudden severe headache; and

4 WHEREAS, In an effort to address these issues, in November
5 2005, the American Stroke Association launched its "Power to End
6 Stroke" campaign aimed at educating the African American community
7 on how to reduce the chances of having a stroke, recognizing the
8 symptoms of stroke, and responding to the warning signs that a
9 person is suffering or has suffered from a stroke; now, therefore,
10 be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 79th Texas
12 Legislature, 3rd Called Session, express its support for the
13 American Stroke Association's "Power to End Stroke" campaign.