

By: Morrison

H.R. No. 1474

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Early Childhood Caries is the most common chronic
2 disease among children, affecting more than half of elementary
3 school students; and

4 WHEREAS, The effects of ECC are felt especially among
5 children in low-income families, with 80 percent of ECC cases
6 occurring in children at or below the poverty line, and with those
7 children having nearly 12 times more restricted-activity days
8 because of dental-related illnesses than children from
9 higher-income families; in addition, fewer than one in five
10 Medicaid-covered children receives even one preventive dental
11 service per year; and

12 WHEREAS, ECC is detrimental to the health, life, and
13 education of the thousands of children affected by it, and the
14 disease is damaging to the education and health systems of the
15 state, causing a tremendous drain on public funds; and

16 WHEREAS, Prevention is the key to combating ECC; by fostering
17 dental-health awareness in the classroom, communities can help
18 students understand how to avoid Early Childhood Caries, thereby
19 improving their overall health and education; a reduction in the
20 incidence of ECC will also lighten the burden on the state health
21 care system, saving vast amounts of state funds and resources; now,
22 therefore, be it

23 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas
24 Legislature hereby recognize the first week of February 2008 as

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1 Operation Stop Decay Week in the public school systems of the Lone
2 Star State.