

By: Giddings

H.R. No. 410

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, HIV/AIDS constitutes a global health crisis: more  
2 than 30 million people around the world are currently infected, and  
3 no cure for the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), which causes  
4 AIDS, has yet been developed; and

5 WHEREAS, In Texas, over 60,000 individuals are presently  
6 living with HIV/AIDS, and more than 5,000 cases of HIV are diagnosed  
7 each year; AIDS-related deaths in the state number approximately  
8 1,000 annually; and

9 WHEREAS, Early testing is critical to preventing further  
10 spread of the disease and also to getting medication that can slow  
11 its progress, and many people are tested too late; one in three  
12 Texans who are newly diagnosed with HIV has already developed AIDS;  
13 late testing is especially common among older Texans; senior  
14 citizens with HIV/AIDS face a double stigma: ageism and infection  
15 with a sexually or IV-drug transmitted disease; and

16 WHEREAS, HIV/AIDS continues to pose a critical threat to  
17 public health in the Lone Star State, and it is essential that  
18 Texans be able to meet this challenge through adequate awareness  
19 and understanding; now, therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas  
21 Legislature hereby recognize February 11, 2009, as HIV/AIDS  
22 Awareness Day in the State of Texas and that citizens throughout the  
23 state be encouraged to educate themselves about the nature,  
24 prevention, and treatment of HIV/AIDS.