

By: McReynolds

H.R. No. 1996

RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, The observance of CPR-AED Awareness Week from June 1
2 to June 7, 2009, provides a fitting opportunity for residents of the
3 Lone Star State to learn about the life-saving benefits of
4 cardiopulmonary resuscitation and automated external
5 defibrillators; and

6 WHEREAS, A public awareness and training campaign sponsored
7 by the American Heart Association, the American Red Cross, and the
8 National Safety Council, CPR-AED Week seeks to educate the public
9 about the dangers of heart disease and the effectiveness of
10 administering CPR and using an AED in critical situations; and

11 WHEREAS, Heart disease is the leading cause of death in the
12 United States, affecting citizens of every race and age, and it is
13 the most common reason for a cardiac arrest to result in a fatality;
14 cardiac arrest is the sudden and abrupt loss of heart function, and
15 approximately 295,000 instances of it occur outside of a hospital
16 each year; in these cases, only 30 percent of the victims receive
17 bystander-administered CPR, and more than 90 percent of the
18 individuals involved die before being discharged from a hospital;
19 the treatment for cardiac arrest is an electric shock to the heart,
20 which restores a normal heartbeat, but it must be performed within
21 minutes in order to be successful; and

22 WHEREAS, When CPR is delivered promptly, a victim's chance of
23 survival doubles, and for every minute without it, the likelihood
24 decreases by 7-10 percent; since the time period between the 9-1-1

1 telephone call and the arrival of Emergency Medical Services
2 personnel is usually longer than five minutes, it is crucial for
3 witnesses of cardiac emergencies to assist victims as soon as
4 possible; if a bystander administers CPR, the process helps
5 maintain blood flow to the heart and brain, and thereby increases
6 the amount of time in which an electric shock from a defibrillator
7 may be effective; similarly, if a bystander uses an AED, which is
8 safe and easy to operate, immediately after the onset of symptoms,
9 it is highly likely that the device will cause the heart to resume a
10 normal rhythm and that ventricular fibrillation will cease; and

11 WHEREAS, CPR-AED Awareness Week promotes greater
12 understanding of heart disease and cardiac arrest within our
13 communities, and it is contributing to the health and well-being of
14 people throughout Texas; now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
16 Legislature hereby recognize June 1 to June 7, 2009, as CPR-AED
17 Awareness Week in Texas and encourage all citizens to seek training
18 in CPR and AED usage.