

By: Zerwas

H.R. No. 748

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Arthritis is the number one cause of disability in  
2 the United States; and

3 WHEREAS, In Texas, nearly a quarter of all adults suffer from  
4 arthritis, a condition that is color-blind and indifferent to  
5 income or socioeconomic status; if the more than 4.1 million Texan  
6 adults who have arthritis were to form a city, its population would  
7 be about the size of Austin, Houston, and San Antonio combined; and

8 WHEREAS, Typically assumed to affect only older adults,  
9 arthritis is found in people of all ages, and more than 300,000  
10 children in the United States have doctor-diagnosed arthritis; at  
11 particular risk are women, African Americans, and whites, while  
12 those who make less than \$25,000 per year also report higher rates  
13 of the disease; and

14 WHEREAS, Nearly half of the Texans who have arthritis suffer  
15 limitations severe enough to interfere with daily life; symptoms of  
16 arthritis include pain, swelling, and stiffness, and arthritis puts  
17 people at greater risk for serious additional health problems such  
18 as heart disease, high blood pressure, diabetes, obesity, and  
19 depression; and

20 WHEREAS, Affecting the quality of life of families and  
21 caregivers as well as individual sufferers, arthritis is also  
22 expensive, costing the citizens of Texas an estimated \$8.7 billion  
23 per year; with the aging of America's population, the prevalence of  
24 arthritis is expected to increase, but the Texas chapter of the

1 Arthritis Foundation is funding vital research, providing public  
2 health education, and conducting research to seek improved  
3 treatment options; and

4 WHEREAS, The well-being of Texas residents is an issue of  
5 paramount importance, and Fight Arthritis Pain Month serves as a  
6 significant reminder of the importance of working to enhance the  
7 quality of life for those living with arthritis; now, therefore, be  
8 it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas  
10 Legislature hereby recognize May 2011 as Fight Arthritis Pain Month  
11 in Texas and urge all Texans to learn more about arthritis and the  
12 needs of people who have arthritis.