

By: Menendez

H.R. No. 1359

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Heart disease affects approximately 1.3 million  
2 adults in Texas and is responsible for more deaths each year than  
3 accidents, AIDS, and all forms of cancer combined; and

4 WHEREAS, In spite of its prevalence and seriousness, heart  
5 disease often goes undetected; for a full 50 percent of heart  
6 disease sufferers, the first symptom of their condition is a severe  
7 heart attack, which is frequently fatal; and

8 WHEREAS, Early detection, diagnosis, and treatment are  
9 vitally important in the prevention and management of heart  
10 disease; blood pressure monitoring is an easy and effective first  
11 step in assessing the risk of heart attack and stroke, and a risk  
12 scoring system can determine the statistical probability of an  
13 individual experiencing a cardiovascular event in the next 10  
14 years, based on a few questions about such risk factors as blood  
15 pressure, cholesterol, smoking, and diabetes; and

16 WHEREAS, The Society for Heart Attack Prevention and  
17 Eradication (SHAPE) is a nonprofit organization created to promote  
18 public awareness and to support research related to the early  
19 detection, prevention, and treatment of atherosclerosis, or  
20 arterial plaques, the most common underlying cause of heart  
21 attacks; and

22 WHEREAS, SHAPE is committed to identifying seemingly healthy  
23 persons who are at increased risk of heart problems, as  
24 asymptomatic individuals are often the type who experience a sudden

1 lethal heart attack or stroke; a growing body of evidence suggests  
2 that cardiovascular events are among the leading causes of vehicle  
3 accidents, second only to driver error, and that half of such  
4 accidents occur with drivers who had no previous knowledge of their  
5 condition; and

6 WHEREAS, The SHAPE Task Force, consisting of an international  
7 group of prominent cardiovascular clinicians and researchers, has  
8 issued guidelines to educate physicians on how to identify  
9 asymptomatic atherosclerosis and other heart risk indicators and  
10 thereby implement proper therapies to prevent a future heart  
11 attack; and

12 WHEREAS, In addition to these important endeavors, members of  
13 SHAPE are gathering to celebrate Texas Blood Pressure Day on  
14 September 1, 2013; this worthwhile event encourages Texans to take  
15 an active role in managing their heart health through risk  
16 detection, a simple yet powerful tool in the fight against our  
17 nation's number one killer; now, therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas  
19 Legislature recognize September 1, 2013, as Texas Blood Pressure  
20 Day, urge all citizens of Texas to get their blood pressure checked,  
21 and commend the members of the Society for Heart Attack Prevention  
22 and Eradication for their outstanding efforts to promote public  
23 awareness and the significance of early detection; and, be it  
24 further

25 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
26 prepared for SHAPE as an expression of high regard by the Texas  
27 House of Representatives.