

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 442

WHEREAS, Malnutrition Awareness Week is taking place from September 28 to October 2, 2015; and

WHEREAS, This observance was first established in 2012 by the American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition, an organization that has played a leading role in drawing attention to malnutrition, understanding that awareness is an important step toward treating the condition; and

WHEREAS, the American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition defines malnutrition as an "acute, subacute or chronic state of nutrition," and it can be the result of either inadequate or unbalanced nutrition; even overweight individuals can be malnourished if they are not receiving proper nutrients; and

WHEREAS, Malnutrition can cause the loss of lean body mass, and that loss can affect recovery from surgery, illness, or disease; the condition is particularly prevalent in vulnerable groups such as older adults, hospital patients, and minority populations, and statistics show that these demographics have higher incidences of such severe chronic diseases as diabetes, kidney disease, and cardiovascular disease; and

WHEREAS, Many health experts agree that the quality of nutrition has a direct impact on an individual's health and that good nutrition can reduce medical costs by helping to keep people healthy and out of institutionalized care; and

WHEREAS, Two important tools in combatting malnutrition are nutritional screening and therapeutic nutrition, through which people at risk are administered food and fluids to support their metabolism; the benefits of these procedures are myriad, yet they are not routine practices across the spectrum of health care; and

WHEREAS, The Texas Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics considers access to nutritional screening and therapeutic nutrition essential to restoring lean body mass, improving clinical outcomes, reducing health care costs, and promoting good health; and

WHEREAS, By gaining a more thorough understanding of malnutrition, residents of the Lone Star State are able to better safeguard their health and to seek effective treatments, and all those involved in sharing information about this condition are indeed deserving of support; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 84th Legislature, hereby recognize September 28 through October 2, 2015, as Malnutrition Awareness Week in Texas.

Hinojosa

S.R. No. 442

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the
above Resolution was adopted by
the Senate on March 30, 2015.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate