

By: Allen

H.R. No. 234

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Obesity is a serious public health concern in the  
2 United States, where more than 42 percent of all adults qualify as  
3 obese and the number of people with severe obesity continues to  
4 grow; in the State of Texas, the adult obesity rate is 34 percent;  
5 and

6           WHEREAS, Experts and researchers agree that obesity is a  
7 complex disease that is influenced by a variety of physiological,  
8 environmental, and genetic factors; those affected by the disease  
9 are at higher risk of developing many other health conditions,  
10 including type 2 diabetes, high blood pressure, cardiovascular  
11 disease, stroke, and some types of cancer; and

12           WHEREAS, While prevention programs have successfully  
13 established the seriousness of the public health crisis posed by  
14 obesity, it is also imperative that individuals and families with  
15 the disease receive comprehensive care and treatment; research  
16 suggests that losing as little as five to ten percent of total body  
17 weight can mitigate the health risks of obesity, but studies also  
18 show that the bias and stigma associated with the disease are  
19 significant barriers to effective treatment; and

20           WHEREAS, Health care professionals, policy makers, patients,  
21 and families should regard obesity with the same level of  
22 importance as other chronic diseases; further, obese patients  
23 should be treated with respect and compassion and should be  
24 provided with assistance in exploring options for weight loss and

1 weight management, including reduced-calorie diets, physical  
2 activity, pharmacotherapy, and bariatric surgery; and

3 WHEREAS, Improving the treatment of obesity will require  
4 concerted action on a number of levels, and the observance of  
5 Obesity Care Week, which takes place from February 28 to March 6,  
6 2021, serves to highlight the urgency of this public health issue  
7 and the need to implement a patient-centered, research-driven model  
8 of care; now, therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas  
10 Legislature hereby recognize February 28 to March 6, 2021, as  
11 Obesity Care Week in Texas and encourage all residents of the Lone  
12 Star State to learn more about lifestyle habits that can lead to  
13 better health.