

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1831

A Resolution designating May 2014 as Stroke Awareness Month in Kansas.

WHEREAS, Stroke is a prevalent cardiovascular disease and imposes a tremendous cost to victims and their families, the health care system and society at large; and

WHEREAS, Stroke is the third leading cause of death in Kansas, as well as a leading cause of long-term disability in the U.S. The prevalence of one or more risk factors for stroke exceeds 25% among the citizens of Kansas; and

WHEREAS, In 2010, the total cost of cardiovascular disease in the U.S. was estimated to be \$444 billion. Treatment of these diseases accounts for about \$1 of every \$6 spent on health care in this country. As the U.S. population ages, it is likely that the economic impact of cardiovascular diseases on our nation's health care system will become even greater; and

WHEREAS, Americans are more aware of the risk factors and warning signs for stroke than in the past, but $\frac{1}{3}$ of adults cannot identify any symptoms and less than 25% of adult Kansans know all of the primary signs and symptoms of stroke and the importance of calling 911; and

WHEREAS, Atrial fibrillation, the most common type of irregular heartbeat, is a risk factor for stroke; and

WHEREAS, Atrial fibrillation consists of two types, nonvalvular AF and valvular AF. Nonvalvular AF (NVAf), which makes up approximately 95% of AF and is estimated to affect 5.8 million people in the U.S. and individuals with NVAf have a five times greater risk of stroke. Approximately 15% of strokes are due to NVAf; and

WHEREAS, NVAf alone is estimated to cost \$6.65 billion per year. Nearly 75% of the costs of NVAf represent the direct and indirect costs associated with hospitalization; and

WHEREAS, New and effective treatments have been developed to treat and minimize the severity and damaging effects of strokes, but much more research is needed: Now, therefore,

***Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas:* That we designate May 2014 as Stroke Awareness Month in Kansas and urge the citizens of our state to familiarize themselves with the risk factors associated with stroke and NVAf so that we might begin to reduce the devastating effects of stroke on our population; and**

***Be it further resolved:* That the Secretary of the Senate shall send five enrolled copies of this resolution to Senator V. Schmidt.**

Senate Resolution No. 1831 was sponsored by Senator Vicki Schmidt.

I hereby certify that the above RESOLUTION originated in the SENATE, and was adopted by that body

President of the Senate.

Secretary of the Senate.