

106TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. RES. 220

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives with regard to the  
heart disease in women.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 23, 1999

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD (for herself, Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin, Mr. BONIOR, Mr. COYNE, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. FROST, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Ms. NORTON, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mrs. KELLY, Ms. KILPATRICK, Mr. McNULTY, Mrs. MEEK of Florida, Mr. MEEHAN, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. SHOWS, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, and Mrs. JONES of Ohio) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce

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## RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives with  
regard to the heart disease in women.

Whereas heart disease is the number one cause of death in  
American women;

Whereas more than 500,000 women in the United States die  
from heart disease each year;

Whereas women often have other diseases such as arthritis  
or osteoporosis that can mask heart attack symptoms  
and can delay medical care;

Whereas the 1998 National Vital Statistics Report stated  
that 328,625 white females and 40,306 black females ex-

perienced heart disease during that year in the United States;

Whereas high cholesterol and high blood pressure are two of the risk factors that can lead to heart disease;

Whereas 50.5 percent of white women, 41.5 percent of black women, 33.3 percent of Hispanic women, 36.6 percent of Asian Pacific women, and 28.8 percent of American Indian women experience heart disease;

Whereas 53 percent of white women, 47 percent of black women, 43 percent of Hispanic women, 25.8 percent of Asian Pacific women, and 37.6 percent of American Indian women have cholesterol levels of 200 mg/dL or higher in the United States;

Whereas the 1998 National Vital Statistics Report found that 79 percent of black women and 60 percent of white women over 45 years old were classified as having high blood pressure in the United States;

Whereas heart disease and high blood pressure can contribute to heart failure, an inability of the heart to pump blood at a rate adequate to meet the demands of the body's tissues, the need for emergency open-heart surgery, or death; and

Whereas women can prevent heart disease by stopping the use of tobacco, reducing the daily intake of alcohol, controlling blood pressure, controlling cholesterol and weight, exercising for 30 to 60 minutes 3 to 4 times a week, and taking a low-dose aspirin once a day or antioxidant vitamin, through 5 servings of fruits or vegetables daily: Now, therefore, be it

1        *Resolved,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This resolution may be cited as the “Women and  
3 Heart Disease Awareness Resolution”.

4 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF THE HOUSE WITH REGARD TO WOMEN**  
5 **AND HEART DISEASE.**

6 The House of Representatives—

7 (1) recognizes the severity of the issue of  
8 women and heart disease;

9 (2) calls on the people of the United States to  
10 take this opportunity to learn about heart disease,  
11 its symptoms, and the steps women can take to  
12 lower their risk;

13 (3) recognizes the importance of federally fund-  
14 ed programs that provide research and collect data  
15 on the rate of heart disease among women, accord-  
16 ing to age, ethnicity, and socioeconomic status; and

17 (4) recognizes the importance of the National  
18 Heart, Lung and Blood Institute at the National In-  
19 stitutes of Health, and the need for adequate fund-  
20 ing to continue research and data collection about  
21 women and heart disease, particularly with respect  
22 to minority populations.

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