110TH CONGRESS 2D SESSION

H. CON. RES. 433

Expressing support for the designation of October as "National Audiology Awareness Month".

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

September 25, 2008

Mr. Ross submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing support for the designation of October as "National Audiology Awareness Month".

- Whereas hearing loss is the third most common health problem in the United States and approximately 17 percent (36,000,000) adults in the United States report that they have some degree of hearing loss;
- Whereas although hearing problems are commonly associated with the normal aging process, more than half of all hearing impaired persons are under the age of 65;
- Whereas hearing difficulties are often unrecognized by the people involved, and as a result most people wait 7 to 10 years after first suspecting hearing loss before seeking help;

Whereas the first step in treatment of a hearing problem is a diagnostic hearing evaluation by an audiologist;

Whereas audiologists, whose academic and clinical training provides the foundation for patient management from birth through adulthood, are dedicated healthcare professionals who diagnose, treat, and manage individuals with hearing loss or balance problems;

Whereas the American Academy of Audiology is recognized for promoting quality hearing and balance care by advancing the profession of audiology through leadership, advocacy, education, public awareness, and support of research;

Whereas October would be the appropriate month to designate as "National Audiology Awareness Month"; and

Whereas there is a need for greater awareness of the hearing and balance care provided by audiologists on the part of the public, including diagnosis and treatment options, research needs, and public policy implications: Now, therefore, be it

- 1 Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate
- 2 concurring), That Congress—
- 3 (1) supports the designation of "National Audi-
- 4 ology Awareness Month"; and
- 5 (2) applauds the actions of audiologists, includ-
- 6 ing clinicians, researchers, and others who strive to
- 7 raise public awareness of hearing and balance care
- 8 by advancing the profession of audiology.