

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 830

Urging health care providers to engage in a strong program to prevent, detect, and treat diabetes, including through the use of a treatment regimen that includes certain minimum clinical practice recommendations, including measurements of body weight and other associated risk factors.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 15, 2007

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN (for herself, Mr. RUSH, Mr. BILBRAY, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mrs. JONES of Ohio, Mr. JEFFERSON, Mr. WYNN, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Mr. TOWNS, and Mr. CLEAVER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

RESOLUTION

Urging health care providers to engage in a strong program to prevent, detect, and treat diabetes, including through the use of a treatment regimen that includes certain minimum clinical practice recommendations, including measurements of body weight and other associated risk factors.

Whereas diabetes is a disease in which the body does not produce enough of its own insulin, a hormone needed to convert sugar, starches, and other food into energy;

Whereas diabetes is a chronic disease that has no cure;

Whereas the serious long-term complications of high blood sugar levels may include blindness, lower-extremity amputation, heart disease, kidney failure, and premature death, and diabetes is the sixth leading cause of death in the United States;

Whereas people with type 2 diabetes often have no immediately discernible symptoms;

Whereas the United States is facing a diabetes epidemic with an estimated 20,800,000 Americans living with the disease;

Whereas according to the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, the health consequences of diabetes are much greater for minorities as minorities have a higher prevalence of diabetes resulting in higher rates of diabetes-related complications and death;

Whereas all minorities, except Alaska Natives, have a prevalence of type 2 diabetes that is two to six times greater than that of the white population;

Whereas between 1997 and 2004 the number of cases of diabetes has increased over 41 percent and 9 out of 10 diagnosed individuals suffer from obesity;

Whereas the keys to reducing the incidence of, and complications associated with, diabetes are education, early detection, control, and proper treatment and the earlier a person is diagnosed with diabetes and receives treatment, the better the person's chances are for avoiding complications associated with diabetes;

Whereas the first line of treatment recommended by all treatment standards is diet and exercise because a healthy diet and the loss of excess weight can have a positive impact on the body's ability to fight off disease, it has been

shown that modest weight loss may help to lower blood sugar, blood pressure, and improve the level of fats in the bloodstream, and modest weight loss can be beneficial to the treatment of diabetes and other metabolic diseases;

Whereas traditionally those at highest risk for diabetes are older citizens in minority populations who have a family history of the disease and who are overweight, but there is an alarming increase in recent years in the growing number of younger people who are being diagnosed with diabetes because of factors such as lifestyle and excessive body mass; and

Whereas to reduce the rate of occurrence of diabetes and its complications among high-risk populations, individuals are encouraged to seek early screening and early treatment, health care workers are encouraged to improve care for the control of diabetes and the treatment of major complications associated with diabetes: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) encourages health care providers to reduce
3 the rate of occurrence of diabetes and its complica-
4 tions by engaging in a strong program with their pa-
5 tients to prevent, detect, and treat the disease, in-
6 cluding through the use of a treatment regimen that
7 includes minimum clinical practice recommendations
8 published by the American Diabetes Association on
9 January 1, 2007, and through the use of measure-
10 ments of body weight and other risk factors associ-
11 ated with diabetes; and

- 1 (2) commends health care providers in the
- 2 United States for their commitment to countering
- 3 the diabetes epidemic.

