

112TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. RES. 468

Expressing the sense of the Senate with respect to childhood stroke and recognizing May as “National Pediatric Stroke Awareness Month”.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 21, 2012

Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. CASEY, and Mr. CHAMBLISS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

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## RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Senate with respect to childhood stroke and recognizing May as “National Pediatric Stroke Awareness Month”.

Whereas a stroke, also known as a cerebrovascular accident, is an acute neurologic injury that occurs when the blood supply to a part of the brain is interrupted by a clot in the artery or a burst of the artery;

Whereas a stroke is a medical emergency that can cause permanent neurologic damage or even death if not promptly diagnosed and treated;

Whereas stroke occurs in approximately 1 out of every 4,000 live births, and the risk of stroke from birth through age 18 is nearly 11 out of every 100,000 children per year;

Whereas an individual can have a stroke before birth;

Whereas stroke is among the top 10 causes of death for children in the United States;

Whereas between 20 percent and 40 percent of children who suffer a stroke die as a result;

Whereas stroke recurs in 20 percent of children who have experienced a stroke;

Whereas the death rate for children who experience a stroke before the age of 1 year is the highest out of all age groups;

Whereas the average time from onset of symptoms to diagnosis of stroke is 24 hours, putting many affected children outside the window of 3 hours for the most successful treatment;

Whereas between 50 and 85 percent of infants and children who have a pediatric stroke will have serious, permanent neurological disabilities, including paralysis, seizures, speech and vision problems, and attention, learning, and behavioral difficulties;

Whereas those disabilities may require ongoing physical therapy and surgeries;

Whereas the permanent health concerns and treatments resulting from strokes that occur during childhood and young adulthood have a considerable impact on children, families, and society;

Whereas very little is known about the cause, treatment, and prevention of pediatric stroke;

Whereas medical research is the only means by which the citizens of the United States can identify and develop effective treatment and prevention strategies for pediatric stroke; and

Whereas early diagnosis and treatment of pediatric stroke greatly improves the chances that the affected child will recover and not experience a recurrence; Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2               (1) acknowledges May as “National Pediatric  
3               Stroke Awareness Month”;

4               (2) urges the people of the United States to  
5               support the efforts, programs, services, and advocacy  
6               of organizations that work to enhance public aware-  
7               ness of childhood stroke;

8               (3) supports the work of the National Institutes  
9               of Health in pursuit of medical progress on the mat-  
10               ter of pediatric stroke; and

11               (4) urges continued coordination and coopera-  
12               tion between government, researchers, families, and  
13               the public to improve treatments and prognoses for  
14               children who suffer strokes.

