

113TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 527

Supporting the goals and ideals of National Public Health Week.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 27, 2014

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD (for herself, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. HONDA, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. HAHN, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico, Mr. LOEBSACK, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, and Mr. VELA) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

RESOLUTION

Supporting the goals and ideals of National Public Health Week.

Whereas the week of April 7, 2014, through April 13, 2014, is National Public Health Week, and the theme for 2014 is “Public Health: Start Here”;

Whereas since 1995, public health organizations have used National Public Health Week to educate the public, policymakers, and public health professionals about issues that are important to improving the health of the people of the United States;

Whereas the public health system that keeps our communities healthy and safe is changing as technologies advance,

public attitudes toward health shift, and more health and safety options become available;

Whereas the value of a strong public health system is in the air we breathe, the water we drink, the food we eat, and the places where we all live, learn, work, and play;

Whereas public health professionals help communities prepare for, withstand, and recover from the impact of a natural or man-made disaster;

Whereas according to the Institute of Medicine, despite being one of the wealthiest nations in the world, the United States still ranks below many other economically prosperous countries in life expectancy, infant mortality, and low birth weight and many other indicators of healthy life;

Whereas studies have shown that small strategic investments in prevention could result in significant savings in health care costs;

Whereas each 10-percent increase in local public health spending contributes to a 6.9-percent decrease in infant deaths, a 3.2-percent decrease in cardiovascular deaths, a 1.4-percent decrease in deaths due to diabetes, and a 1.1-percent decrease in cancer deaths;

Whereas in communities across the country, more people are changing the way they care for their health by avoiding tobacco use, eating healthier, becoming more physically active, and preventing unintentional injuries at home and in the workplace; and

Whereas by adequately supporting public health and prevention, we can continue to transform a health system focused on treating illness to focus on preventing disease and promoting wellness: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) supports the goals and ideals of National
3 Public Health Week;

4 (2) recognizes the efforts of public health pro-
5 fessionals, the Federal Government, States, Tribes,
6 municipalities, local communities, and individuals in
7 preventing disease and injury;

8 (3) recognizes the role of public health in im-
9 proving the health of people in the United States;

10 (4) encourages increased efforts and resources
11 to improve the health of people in the United States
12 to create the healthiest nation in one generation
13 through—

14 (A) greater opportunities to improve com-
15 munity health and prevent disease and injury;
16 and

17 (B) strengthening of the public health sys-
18 tem of the United States; and

19 (5) encourages the people of the United States
20 to learn about the role of the public health system
21 in improving health in the United States.

○