

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 94

Senator Johnson offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to recognize February 2024 as American Heart
2 Month and February 7, 2024, as "National Wear Red Day".

3 Whereas, The American Heart Association celebrates February
4 2024 as American Heart Month by promoting cardiovascular education,
5 awareness, and by encouraging citizens to learn the warning signs
6 of a heart attack and stroke; and

7 Whereas, Cardiovascular disease affects men, women, and
8 children of every age and race in the United States (U.S.); and

9 Whereas, Cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death
10 in women in the U.S., claiming the lives of more women than all
11 forms of cancer combined. Only 44 percent of women recognize that
12 cardiovascular disease is their greatest health threat; and

1 Whereas, Among females 20 years and older, nearly 45 percent
2 are living with some form of cardiovascular disease and less than
3 half of women entering pregnancy in the U.S. have optimal
4 cardiovascular health; and

5 Whereas, Cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of
6 maternal death in the U.S., or more simply put, heart disease is
7 the number one killer of new moms; and

8 Whereas, Overall, 10 to 20 percent of women will have a health
9 issue during pregnancy. High blood pressure, preeclampsia, and
10 gestational diabetes during pregnancy greatly increase a women's
11 risk for developing cardiovascular disease later in life; and

12 Whereas, Women, especially Black and Hispanic women, are
13 disproportionally impacted by heart disease and stroke, and
14 research shows heart attacks are on the rise in younger women; and

15 Whereas, Younger generations of women, also known as Gen Z and
16 Millennials, are less aware of their greatest health threat,
17 including knowing the warning signs of heart attacks and strokes;
18 and

19 Whereas, Additionally, 90 percent of women have one or more
20 risk factors for developing heart disease or stroke; and

21 Whereas, Most cardiac and stroke events can be prevented
22 through education and lifestyle changes, such as moving more,
23 eating smart, and managing blood pressure; and

24 Whereas, In 2020, stroke caused the deaths of 90,627 females,
25 approximately 56.5 percent of total stroke deaths; and

26 Whereas, There are significant biological differences between
27 men and women, and clinical trials have not always adequately
28 enrolled women or analyzed sex-specific differences in the data. As
29 of 2020, only 38 percent of cardiovascular clinical research trial

1 participants are women; and

2 Whereas, Since 2004, the American Heart Association's Go Red
3 for Women® movement has addressed the awareness and clinical care
4 gaps of women's greatest health threat, cardiovascular disease. On
5 the cusp of the American Heart Association's 100th anniversary,
6 they continue to make bold moves to save lives and pioneer
7 scientific discoveries; now, therefore, be it

8 Resolved by the Senate, That the members of this legislative
9 body recognize February 2024 as American Heart Month and February
10 7, 2024, as "National Wear Red Day".