

116TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. RES. 860

Recognizing the rise of cardiovascular disease as the world's leading cause of preventable death and disability and as a global public health crisis and supporting the recognition of February 2020 as "American Heart Month".

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 14, 2020

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself and Mrs. BEATTY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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# RESOLUTION

Recognizing the rise of cardiovascular disease as the world's leading cause of preventable death and disability and as a global public health crisis and supporting the recognition of February 2020 as "American Heart Month".

Whereas the World Health Organization estimates that in 2017, 17.8 million people died from cardiovascular diseases (referred to in this resolution as "CVDs") globally;

Whereas of these deaths, 85 percent were due to heart attacks and strokes, and over three-quarters of CVD deaths occur in low- and middle-income countries;

Whereas CVDs result in tremendous health care costs and lost productivity and, if not addressed, the United States alone will spend over \$1,000,000,000 by 2035 on costs relating to CVD;

Whereas the heavy burden of death and disability from CVDs can be decreased through changes in behavior linked to major risk factors, including reduced tobacco use and salt consumption and improvements in access to medical treatment and services;

Whereas essential quality-assured medicines and technologies are critical components to address the global burden of CVDs; and

Whereas United States leadership and support has strengthened surveillance, enhanced workforce capacity, and provided valuable technical exchanges with respect to the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of CVD: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2               (1) supports the recognition of American Heart  
3       Month to bring awareness to the cardiovascular dis-  
4       ease (hereinafter referred to as “CVD”) public  
5       health crisis in the United States and abroad;

6               (2) affirms that the key to overcoming CVD is  
7       prevention and early detection and treatment to re-  
8       duce long-term disability and mortality;

9               (3) urges the deployment of United States tech-  
10      nical expertise on CVDs in support of developing ca-

1 capacities and strengthening of the health care sys-  
2 tems of other countries;

3 (4) values the quality of life for CVD patients  
4 around the world and their reintegration to society;  
5 and

6 (5) calls on the Department of State, the  
7 United States Agency for International Develop-  
8 ment, and the Centers for Disease Control and Pre-  
9 vention, to—

10 (A) comprehensively examine the impact of  
11 CVDs on health and development in United  
12 States priority assistance countries; and

13 (B) develop a coordinated strategy that im-  
14 proves the effectiveness and impact of United  
15 States-financed global health programming by  
16 integrating CVD into existing programs.

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