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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, High cholesterol, also called
3 hypercholesterolemia, is the chronic presence of high levels
4 of cholesterol in the blood that can lead to cardiovascular
5 disease (CVD) and even cardiovascular (CV) events like heart
6 attacks or strokes; and

7 WHEREAS, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
8 (CDC) estimates that CVD is arguably the most underappreciated
9 public health crisis of our time; someone in the U.S. has a
10 heart attack every 40 seconds, yet approximately 80% are
11 preventable; and

12 WHEREAS, Low-density lipoprotein cholesterol (LDL-C), or
13 "bad" cholesterol, is an easily modifiable risk factor for
14 CVD; lower LDL-C is associated with a reduced risk of heart
15 attack and stroke; and

16 WHEREAS, Heart disease is the leading cause of death in
17 the U.S. among racial and ethnic minority populations; and

18 WHEREAS, The American Heart Association (AHA) has
19 demonstrated that Hispanic Americans are at exceptionally high
20 risk for cardiovascular disease and coronary heart disease,
21 both of which can lead to a stroke or heart attack; and

1 WHEREAS, More than 80 million adults have high LDL-C; and

2 WHEREAS, The AHA indicates that CVD disproportionately
3 affects minority populations; 52.3% of Hispanic males and
4 42.7% of Hispanic females over the age of 20 are affected by
5 CVD; 60.1% of Black males and 58.8% of Black females 20 years
6 of age and older have CVD; and

7 WHEREAS, The CDC found that one in three deaths in the U.S.
8 is due to heart disease, and this results in more than \$216
9 billion in healthcare costs; and

10 WHEREAS, Nearly 60% of middle-aged Hispanic adults have
11 high cholesterol, yet only half are aware of this, according
12 to a study published in the Journal of the American Medical
13 Association; and

14 WHEREAS, A study published in the American Journal of
15 Preventative Cardiology found cholesterol testing, an
16 important preventive measure for reducing the risk of
17 cardiovascular disease, declined during the COVID pandemic;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, The resources needed to bend the curve in CVD
20 exist, yet 71% of hypercholesterolemia patients at high risk

1 of a CV event never achieve recommended LDL-C treatment
2 guideline thresholds; and

3 WHEREAS, The LDL-C Action Summit, a consortium of the
4 nation's leading cardiovascular stakeholder groups, seeks to
5 cut cardiovascular events in half by 2030; and

6 WHEREAS, The CDC's Million Hearts program seeks to improve
7 access and quality of care to reduce heart disease, stroke,
8 and death; and

9 WHEREAS, The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
10 Office of Minority Health recognizes April as National
11 Minority Health Month; therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
13 HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
14 we declare April 2024 as "Minority Health Month" in the State
15 of Illinois; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That we urge all Americans to learn their LDL-C
17 level; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That we urge the Illinois Department of Public
19 Health to update the State's cardiovascular plan to accelerate
20 quality improvements and measures to achieve improved health

1 outcomes for CVD patients; and be it further

2 RESOLVED, That we urge the Illinois Department of Public
3 Health to develop campaigns to increase cholesterol tests
4 during the month of April; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That we urge providers to treat all CVD patients
6 in accordance with American College of Cardiology treatment
7 guidelines; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
9 presented to the Illinois Department of Public Health and the
10 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.