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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, Currently, some 8 million women in the United  
3 States are living with heart disease, yet only one in 5  
4 American women believe that heart disease is her greatest  
5 health threat; and

6           WHEREAS, 90% of women have one or more risk factors for  
7 developing heart disease; and

8           WHEREAS, 26% of women die within a year of suffering a  
9 heart attack, compared with 19% of men; and

10           WHEREAS, While one in 30 American women die from breast  
11 cancer each year, one in 3 die of cardiovascular disease; and

12           WHEREAS, Cardiovascular disease claims the lives of over  
13 419,000 American females each year, almost one death per  
14 minute; and

15           WHEREAS, Only 43% of African-American women and 44% of  
16 Hispanic women know that heart disease is their greatest health  
17 risk, compared with 60% of white women; and

18           WHEREAS, Nearly as many women die of heart disease, stroke,  
19 and all other cardiovascular diseases than the next 3 leading

1 causes of death combined, including all cancers; and

2 WHEREAS, Only 16% of women surveyed in 2009 identified  
3 cardiovascular disease as the greatest health problem facing  
4 them; and

5 WHEREAS, In women, heart disease is too often a silent  
6 killer, compared with most men; less than one-third of women in  
7 a recent survey reported any early warning signs, such as chest  
8 pain or discomfort, before a heart attack; and

9 WHEREAS, Common symptoms for women included pain of the  
10 jaw, arm, or back, but most reported a delay in seeking  
11 treatments after the symptoms began anywhere from 15 minutes to  
12 2 weeks; and

13 WHEREAS, Women are less likely to call 911 for themselves  
14 when experiencing symptoms of a heart attack than if someone  
15 else were having a heart attack; and

16 WHEREAS, "Go Red For Women" is the American Heart  
17 Association's national call to increase awareness about heart  
18 disease, the leading cause of death for women, and to inspire  
19 women to take charge of their heart health; and

20 WHEREAS, All women should learn their own personal risk for

1 heart disease by using tools such as the American Heart  
2 Association's "My Life Check", the "Go Red For Women Heart  
3 CheckUp", and "Go Red For Women Better U", and by talking to  
4 their healthcare provider; and

5 WHEREAS, Making the right choices relating to proper  
6 nutrition, physical activity, and other healthy lifestyle  
7 choices are essential to living a heart healthy life;  
8 therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
10 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that,  
11 in recognition of the importance of the ongoing fight against  
12 heart disease and stroke, we designate the month of February  
13 20one2 as "Go Red For Women Month" in the State of Illinois;  
14 and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That we urge all citizens to show their support  
16 for women's health, join the fight against heart disease and  
17 stroke, increase their awareness of these deadly diseases, and  
18 empower women to reduce their risk for cardiovascular disease  
19 and stroke so that thousands of lives can be saved each year.