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LRB097 11148 RPM 52626 r

1 SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 125

2 WHEREAS, Atrial fibrillation (AFib) is the most common
3 serious heart rhythm disorder and causes 15% of all strokes in
4 the United States; and

5 WHEREAS, Atrial fibrillation affects more than 2.3 million
6 Americans and is expected to more than double to 5.6 million
7 Americans by 2050; and

8 WHEREAS, One in 4 people aged 40 years or older develop
9 atrial fibrillation during their lifetime; and

10 WHEREAS, Atrial fibrillation causes the heart to beat
11 irregularly or out of rhythm; as a result, people with AFib are
12 nearly 5 times more likely to have a stroke than someone
13 without the condition; in addition, AFib-related strokes are
14 about twice as likely to be fatal and about twice as likely to
15 be severely disabling than strokes that are not related to
16 AFib; and

17 WHEREAS, Three out of 4 AFib-related strokes can be
18 prevented, but many patients are not aware of their risk and do
19 not take action to prevent stroke; and

20 WHEREAS, The estimated direct medical cost of stroke for

1 2007 was \$25.2 billion; this includes hospital outpatient or
2 office-based provider visits, hospital inpatient stays,
3 emergency room visits, prescribed medicines, and home health;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Appropriate stroke prevention in AFib can
6 effectively reduce the overall financial burden of the illness
7 within public programs, such as Medicaid and Medicare; and

8 WHEREAS, Reducing the risk of stroke related to AFib may
9 maintain self-sufficiency on the part of patients cared for
10 within public programs; therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL
12 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we urge the Illinois
13 Department of Healthcare and Family Services in cooperation
14 with the Department of Public Health to pursue the feasibility
15 of assessing chronic disease management of stroke prevention in
16 atrial fibrillation, using State or private resources, or both,
17 where available, with the intent of identifying opportunities
18 to reduce the financial and clinical burden of AFib-related
19 strokes upon Illinois in public programs; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
21 presented to the Director of Healthcare and Family Services and
22 to the Director of Public Health.