



2009 Senate Joint Resolution 56

ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION

Relating to: proclaiming February 7 to 14, 2010, as Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Week.

Whereas, congenital heart defects are the most frequently occurring birth defect and the leading cause of birth defect related deaths worldwide; and

Whereas, over a million families across America are facing the challenges and hardships of raising children with congenital heart defects; and

Whereas, every year approximately 40,000 babies are born in the United States with congenital heart defects; and

Whereas, some congenital heart defects are not diagnosed until months or years after birth; and

Whereas, undiagnosed congenital heart conditions cause many cases of sudden cardiac death in young athletes; and

Whereas, despite these statistics, newborns and young athletes are not routinely screened for congenital heart defects; and

Whereas, Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Week provides an opportunity for families whose lives have been affected to celebrate life and to remember loved ones lost, to honor dedicated health professionals, and to meet others and know they are not alone; and

Whereas, the American Heart Association and Mended Little Hearts believe the establishment of Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Week will also provide the opportunity to share experience and information with the public and the media, in order to raise public awareness about congenital heart defects; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That the Wisconsin legislature proclaims February 7 to 14, 2010, to be Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Week and encourages all citizens to increase awareness, education, and services for congenital heart defects, which each year affect thousands of babies in Wisconsin.

Representative Michael J. Sheridan
Speaker of the Assembly

Senator Fred A. Risser
President of the Senate

Date

Robert J. Marchant
Senate Chief Clerk