

State of South Dakota

SEVENTY-SIXTH SESSION LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2001

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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1017

Introduced by: Representatives Valandra, Abdallah, Adelstein, Broderick, Brown (Richard), Burg, Clark, Gillespie, Heineman, Hundstad, Jaspers, Kloucek, Nesselhuf, Olson (Mel), Sutton (Duane), and Van Norman and Senators Olson (Ed), Albers, Bogue, Brosz, Brown (Arnold), Daugaard, de Hueck, Hutmacher, Koetzle, Moore, and Volesky

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, Promoting National Heart Failure Awareness Week.

2 WHEREAS, congestive heart failure is a major national public health problem that impacts
3 five million Americans, or one and one-half percent of the national population; and

4 WHEREAS, each year five hundred fifty thousand new cases of congestive heart failure are
5 diagnosed, with two hundred thousand deaths and one million hospitalizations resulting from the
6 disease; and

7 WHEREAS, congestive heart failure is the leading cause of hospitalization in patients over
8 the age of sixty-five; and

9 WHEREAS, patients with congestive heart failure who are diagnosed with the most severe
10 symptoms have an approximate fifty percent survival rate of one year, and fifty percent of
11 patients with congestive heart failure who are diagnosed with even mild disease die within five
12 years; and

13 WHEREAS, the majority of patients are not diagnosed until late in the course of the disease;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, of an estimated ten billion dollars annual national health care expenditure for
3 congestive heart failure the greatest portion, eight billion dollars is expended for hospitalization
4 costs; and

5 WHEREAS, although current treatment guidelines recommend that approximately eighty
6 percent of heart failure patients receive angiotensin converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitors in
7 combination with beta blockers to extend life and reduce costly hospitalizations, only forty-five
8 percent of patients are treated with ACE inhibitors and twenty percent of patients receive beta
9 blockers; and

10 WHEREAS, the primary goals of National Heart Failure Awareness Week are to promote
11 research related to all aspects of heart failure and provide a forum for presentation of that
12 research; to educate heart failure caregivers and patients through programs, publications, and
13 other media allowing for more effective treatment and diagnosis of heart failure; and to enhance
14 the quality and duration of life for those with heart failure:

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives of the Seventy-
16 sixth Legislature of the State of South Dakota, the Senate concurring therein, that the South
17 Dakota Legislature endorses the national proclamation of National Heart Failure Awareness
18 Week; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the secretary of health transmit treatment guidelines
20 for congestive hearth failure published by the Heart Failure Society of America, Inc. to the
21 appropriate health care professionals in the state and urge adoption of these guidelines in their
22 practices; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that physicians and payers of health care costs be
24 encouraged to administer and provide reimbursement for echocardiograms to all patients over

1 fifty years of age with a history of heart disease and begin appropriate treatment as early as
2 possible; and

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that physicians and payers of health care costs be
4 encouraged to prescribe or provide reimbursement for the standard of care for congestive heart
5 failure, including the federal Food and Drug Administration-approved beta blockers and ACE
6 inhibitors as well as other therapies that have demonstrated a reduction in the mortality and
7 morbidity associated with congestive heart failure; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the South Dakota Legislature endorses the inclusion
9 of the latest treatment advances for congestive heart failure in the curriculum of the medical
10 schools in the state.