

105TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. CON. RES. 108

Recognizing the 50th anniversary of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 17, 1998

Mr. DORGAN (for himself and Mr. FRIST) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Recognizing the 50th anniversary of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, and for other purposes.

Whereas in 1948 the Congress, by its enactment of the National Heart Act and creation of the National Heart Institute, recognized the urgent need to establish a national program of research and demonstration projects relating to the causes, diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of diseases of the heart and circulation;

Whereas the Congress has consistently and generously supported the purposes of the National Heart Act;

Whereas, since the creation of the National Heart Institute, the Congress changed the name of the Institute to the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute and expanded and clarified the Institute's role in advancing human understanding or awareness of diseases of the heart and

blood vessels, diseases of the lungs, diseases of the blood, the use of blood and blood products, the management of blood resources, and sleep disorders through research, research training, demonstration projects, and public education activities;

Whereas June of 1998 marks the 50th anniversary of the creation of the National Heart Institute which was established to lead a national effort to prevent, diagnose, and treat heart diseases;

Whereas research supported by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute has led to the identification of risk factors for coronary heart disease such as high cholesterol level, high blood pressure, obesity, physical inactivity, and cigarette smoking;

Whereas the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute has conducted and supported studies that resulted in lifesaving procedures for heart disease patients, including open-heart surgery, balloon angioplasty, heart transplants, and insertion of pacemakers and other devices to improve heart function;

Whereas patients with asthma, cystic fibrosis, and other lung diseases are receiving better treatment with an improved quality of life because of research supported by programs of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute;

Whereas the work of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute has provided significant bases for progress in the treatment of inherited blood diseases such as sickle cell anemia and hemophilia, and in gene therapy research which suggests the possibility of cures for such diseases;

Whereas the work of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute has provided significant bases for advances in

molecular genetics, gene therapy, and other new technologies, which offer opportunity and promise of further advances against such devastating diseases as coronary heart disease, asthma, chronic obstructive lung disease, and cystic fibrosis;

Whereas the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute's national education programs have significantly raised public awareness about the dangers of elevated cholesterol levels and high blood pressure, the importance of early response to heart attack symptoms, and asthma prevention and treatment;

Whereas the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute's efforts to promote research and education have contributed to a dramatic decline over the past 50 years in death rates from coronary heart disease and stroke;

Whereas researchers, professional societies, voluntary and public health organizations, and patient groups have all contributed to the National Heart Act's goals of advancing research and increasing public awareness;

Whereas the Congress intends that the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute continue its contribution to public awareness by disseminating its research findings to health professionals and the public; and

Whereas the Congress intends that the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute continue to aggressively pursue efforts to improve the health of the people of the United States by conducting and supporting research and demonstration projects on the causes, diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of diseases of the heart and blood vessels, diseases of the lungs, and diseases of the blood while also conducting or supporting research and dem-

onstration projects on the use of blood and blood products, the management of blood resources, and sleep disorders: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives*  
 2       *concurring)*, That the Congress—

3               (1) recognizes the historic significance of the  
 4       50th anniversary of the enactment of the National  
 5       Heart Act and the creation of the institute that be-  
 6       came the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Insti-  
 7       tute;

8               (2) recognizes heart, lung, and blood research-  
 9       ers, professional societies, voluntary and public  
 10      health organizations, and patient groups for their  
 11      active participation in the activities of, or promoted  
 12      by, the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute,  
 13      and for their many, varied contributions toward the  
 14      achievement of the goals of the National Heart Act  
 15      and subsequent related Acts; and

16              (3) reaffirms its support of the National Heart  
 17      Act and subsequent related Acts and their primary  
 18      goal of establishing and implementing a national ef-  
 19      fort to prevent, diagnose, and treat diseases of the  
 20      heart and blood vessels, lungs, and blood.

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