H. RES. 648

Supporting the goals and ideals of Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness Day.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

September 10, 2007

Mr. Issa submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

RESOLUTION

Supporting the goals and ideals of Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness Day.

- Whereas nationwide more than 325,000 Americans die each year from sudden cardiac arrest, which amounts to 900 people per day at a rate of one person every 90 seconds;
- Whereas more Americans die each year from sudden cardiac arrest than from cancer and car accidents combined;
- Whereas almost 95 percent of sudden cardiac arrest victims die before they reach a hospital or obtain other emergency medical attention;
- Whereas 80 percent of sudden cardiac arrests are caused by ventricular fibrillation, a heart rhythm variance for which defibrillation and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) are the only effective treatments;

- Whereas sudden cardiac arrest causes the brain to begin dying within four to six minutes of onset;
- Whereas for every minute that passes while a person is experiencing sudden cardiac arrest, chances of survival decrease by 10 percent;
- Whereas after six minutes, according to studies conducted by the Mayo Clinic, the chance of resuscitating a sudden cardiac arrest victim is almost zero;
- Whereas although sudden cardiac arrest is one of the leading causes of death in the United States, automated external defibrillators (AEDs) can prevent these deaths;
- Whereas AEDs enable medical and nonmedical rescuers to deliver a potentially lifesaving defibrillation to sudden cardiac arrest victims;
- Whereas the national sudden cardiac arrest survival rate without defibrillation and CPR is less than 5 percent;
- Whereas the Federal Government has already mandated every commercial airplane to have an AED on board;
- Whereas a sudden cardiac arrest event is 30 times more likely to occur in a school than on an airplane;
- Whereas on any given day, 20 percent of the population, both adults and children, occupy the Nation's schools;
- Whereas an estimated 3,000 to 5,000 school-aged children die each year from sudden cardiac arrest;
- Whereas in the United States, one out of every 100,000 to 300,000 high school athletes will die each year from sudden cardiac arrest;
- Whereas in communities with strong public access defibrillation programs, the sudden cardiac arrest sur-

vival rate, when defibrillation and CPR are provided within the first three minutes, is up to 75 percent;

Whereas education, training, and preparedness are critical factors in the ability to successfully save the life of a sudden cardiac arrest victim; and

Whereas heightened public awareness of how critical time is in providing treatment to sudden cardiac arrest victims can help save lives: Now, therefore, be it

- 1 Resolved, That the House of Representatives—
- 2 (1) supports the goals and ideals of Sudden
- 3 Cardiac Arrest Awareness Day; and
- 4 (2) encourages awareness and education efforts
- 5 on the subject of sudden cardiac arrest and the
- 6 timely use of an automated external defibrillator and
- 7 cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

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