

114TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. RES. 156

Expressing the sense of the Senate with respect to childhood stroke and recognizing May 2015 as “National Pediatric Stroke Awareness Month”.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 30, 2015

Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Ms. AYOTTE, and Mr. MURPHY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

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## RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Senate with respect to childhood stroke and recognizing May 2015 as “National Pediatric Stroke Awareness Month”.

Whereas a stroke, also known as cerebrovascular disease, is an acute neurologic injury that occurs when the blood supply to a part of the brain is interrupted by a clot in the artery or a burst of the artery;

Whereas a stroke is a medical emergency that can cause permanent neurologic damage or even death if not promptly diagnosed and treated;

Whereas a stroke occurs in approximately 1 out of every 3,500 live births, and 4.6 out of 100,000 children ages 19 and under experience a stroke each year;

Whereas a stroke can occur before birth;

Whereas stroke is among the top 12 causes of death for children between the ages of 1 and 14 in the United States;

Whereas 20 to 40 percent of children who have suffered a stroke die as a result;

Whereas a stroke recurs within 5 years in 10 percent of children who have had an ischemic or hemorrhagic stroke;

Whereas the death rate for children who experience a stroke before the age of 1 is the highest out of all child age groups;

Whereas there are no approved therapies for the treatment of acute stroke in infants and children;

Whereas approximately 60 percent of infants and children who have a pediatric stroke will have serious, permanent neurological disabilities, including paralysis, seizures, speech and vision problems, and attention, learning, and behavioral difficulties;

Whereas such disabilities may require ongoing physical therapy and surgeries;

Whereas the permanent health concerns of and treatments for strokes that occur during childhood and young adulthood have considerable impacts on children, families, and society;

Whereas more information is necessary regarding the cause, treatment, and prevention of pediatric strokes;

Whereas medical research is the only means by which the people of the United States can identify and develop effective treatment and prevention strategies for pediatric strokes; and

Whereas early diagnosis and treatment of pediatric strokes greatly improves the chances that an affected child will

recover and not experience a recurrence of a stroke: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2               (1) recognizes May 2015 as “National Pediatric  
3       Stroke Awareness Month”;

4               (2) urges the people of the United States to  
5       support the efforts, programs, services, and organi-  
6       zations that enhance public awareness of pediatric  
7       stroke;

8               (3) supports the work of the National Institutes  
9       of Health in pursuit of medical progress on pediatric  
10       stroke; and

11              (4) urges continued coordination and coopera-  
12       tion between the Federal Government, State and  
13       local governments, researchers, families, and the  
14       public to improve treatments and prognoses for chil-  
15       dren who suffer from strokes.

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