

STATE OF ALASKA THE LEGISLATURE

2012

Source
HCR 20

**Legislative
Resolve No.**
39



Designating February 2012 as American Heart Month.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

WHEREAS cardiovascular disease is the nation's leading cause of death; and

WHEREAS cardiovascular disease is the costliest disease in the nation, with direct and indirect costs estimated to be \$297,700,000,000 a year; and

WHEREAS cardiovascular disease accounts for one out of three deaths nationwide; and

WHEREAS nearly 2,200 Americans die of cardiovascular disease each day, an average of one death every 39 seconds; and

WHEREAS nearly 33 percent of deaths caused by cardiovascular disease occur in persons under 75 years of age; and

WHEREAS, this year, an estimated 785,000 people nationwide will have a new coronary attack, an estimated 470,000 people nationwide will have a recurrent attack, and an additional 195,000 people nationwide will have a silent heart attack; and

WHEREAS the research is clear that there are preventive strategies, as well as community-based strategies, that can increase survival rates from cardiovascular disease; and

WHEREAS the American Heart Association's 2020 impact goal seeks to improve the cardiovascular health of all Americans by 20 percent while reducing deaths from cardiovascular disease and stroke by 20 percent through research, population-level and community-level interventions, and public health and policy measures; and

WHEREAS the American Heart Association encourages citizens to help save lives by calling 911 if symptoms occur, to become trained in cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and to encourage comprehensive automated external defibrillator programs in their communities; and

WHEREAS the American Heart Association is celebrating February 2012 as American Heart Month and promoting education and awareness by encouraging citizens to learn the warning signs of heart attack and stroke;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature designates February 2012 as American Heart Month in recognition of the importance of the ongoing fight against heart disease; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature urges all citizens to recognize the critical importance of tools and skills that increase survival rates from cardiac arrest and to recognize that, by incorporating those tools and skills into aggressive programs, thousands of lives can be saved each year.