



Legislation Text

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Res. No. 1703

Resolution Supporting the American Diabetes Association and other researchers and educators and individuals in their dedicated cause of fighting diabetes, and urging the Congress to authorize additional federal funding for diabetes research and prevention programs, and recognizing November as Diabetes Awareness Month in the City of New York.

By Council Members Nelson, Brewer, Comrie, Dickens, Eugene, Felder, Fidler, Gonzalez, James, Liu, Stewart, Vacca, Weprin, Gerson, Mealy, Katz and White Jr.

Whereas, According to the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), diabetes is a group of diseases marked by high levels of blood glucose resulting from defects in insulin production, insulin action, or both; and

Whereas, The CDC advises us that diabetes, can lead to serious complications and premature death; and

Whereas, The CDC further advises that people with diabetes take steps to control the disease and lower the risk of complications; and

Whereas, As described in the New England Journal of Medicine, the diabetes epidemic in the United States continues unabated, with a staggering toll in acute and chronic complications, disability and death; and

Whereas, According to Dr. Leonid Poretsky, Division Chief of New York's Beth Israel Medical Center Division of Endocrinology, and other experts, the diabetes epidemic is sweeping the globe, affecting close to 246 million people world-wide, including 23.6 million in the United States, and some 500,000 to 800,000 New Yorkers; and

Whereas, As Dr. Poretsky and other experts warn us that, if not treated appropriately, diabetes can lead to tragic consequences - kidney failure, blindness, amputation of extremities and premature death from cardiovascular disease; and

Whereas, As further reported by Dr. Poretsky and others, fortunately, these devastating complications, as well as, in many cases, diabetes itself, can be prevented; and

Whereas, According to the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH), in the City of New York, diabetes is already an epidemic, fueled by the increase in obesity nationwide and worldwide; and

Whereas, the DOHMH further advises that in the past 10 years, the number of people with diabetes in NYC has more than doubled; and

Whereas, DOHMH educates us to the fact that although an estimated 530,000 adult New Yorkers know they have diabetes, incredibly, for every two people who have diabetes, there is another person who has it and doesn't yet know it, suggesting another 265,000 New Yorkers with diabetes; and

Whereas, Education and public awareness is imperative as a start to get a handle on this epidemic, and as Dr. Poretsky and other experts and lay persons alike urge, adequate resources must be allocated to programs for the prevention of diabetes and its complications, so that both the devastating economic impact of this disease on society and its burden on individuals who suffer from diabetes, as well as on their families and friends, is significantly reduced and, ultimately, eliminated; and

Whereas, November has been designated as Diabetes Awareness Month in the United States; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Council of the City Of New York supports the American Diabetes Association and other researchers and educators and individuals in their dedicated cause of fighting diabetes, and urges the Congress to authorize additional federal funding for diabetes research and prevention programs, and recognizes November as Diabetes Awareness Month in the City of New York.

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