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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, Atrial fibrillation (AFib) is the most common serious heart rhythm disorder and causes 15% of all strokes in the United States; and

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WHEREAS, Atrial fibrillation affects more than 2.3 million Americans and is expected to more than double to 5.6 million Americans by 2050; and

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WHEREAS, One in 4 people aged 40 years or older develop atrial fibrillation during their lifetime; and

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WHEREAS, Atrial fibrillation causes the heart to beat irregularly or out of rhythm; as a result, people with AFib are nearly 5 times more likely to have a stroke than someone without the condition; in addition, AFib-related strokes are about twice as likely to be fatal and about twice as likely to be severely disabling than strokes that are not related to AFib; and

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WHEREAS, Three out of 4 AFib-related strokes can be prevented, but many patients are not aware of their risk and do not take action to prevent stroke; and

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WHEREAS, The estimated direct medical cost of stroke for

1 2007 was \$25.2 billion; this includes hospital outpatient or
2 office-based provider visits, hospital inpatient stays,
3 emergency room visits, prescribed medicines, and home health;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Appropriate stroke prevention in AFib can
6 effectively reduce the overall financial burden of the illness
7 within public programs, such as Medicaid and Medicare; and

8 WHEREAS, Reducing the risk of stroke related to AFib may
9 maintain self-sufficiency on the part of patients cared for
10 within public programs; therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
12 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
13 we urge the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family
14 Services to pursue the feasibility of assessing chronic disease
15 management of stroke prevention in atrial fibrillation, using
16 State or private resources, or both, where available, with the
17 intent of identifying opportunities to reduce the financial and
18 clinical burden of AFib-related strokes upon Illinois in public
19 programs; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
21 presented to the Director of Healthcare and Family Services.