

# House Resolution No. 1452

## 96TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

2111L.011

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

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4           **WHEREAS**, atrial fibrillation affects more than 2.3 million Americans and is expected  
5 to more than double to 5.6 million Americans by 2050; and

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7           **WHEREAS**, 1 in 4 people aged 40 years or older develop atrial fibrillation during their  
8 lifetime; and

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10           **WHEREAS**, atrial fibrillation causes the heart to beat irregularly or out of rhythm. As  
11 a result, people with AFib are nearly 5 times more likely to have a stroke than a person without  
12 the condition. In addition, AFib-related strokes are about twice as likely to be fatal and about  
13 twice as likely to be severely disabling than strokes that are not related to AFib; and

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15           **WHEREAS**, 3 out of 4 AFib-related strokes can be prevented, but many patients are not  
16 aware of their risk and do not take action to prevent stroke; and

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18           **WHEREAS**, the estimated direct medical cost of stroke for 2007 was \$25.2 billion,  
19 including hospital outpatient or office-based provider visits, hospital inpatient stays, emergency  
20 room visits, prescribed medications, and home health; and

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22           **WHEREAS**, appropriate stroke prevention in AFib can effectively reduce the overall  
23 financial burden of the illness within public programs such as Medicaid and Medicare; and

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25           **WHEREAS**, reducing the risk of stroke related to AFib may maintain self sufficiency  
26 on the part of patients cared for within public programs:

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28           **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the members of the House of  
29 Representatives of the Ninety-sixth General Assembly hereby request the Department of Health  
30 and Senior Services to pursue the feasibility of implementing a program to assess chronic disease  
31 management of stroke prevention in atrial fibrillation using available appropriations and private

32 sources of funding in an effort to identify opportunities to reduce the financial and clinical  
33 burden of AFib-related strokes upon the State of Missouri and public programs, including  
34 Medicare and Medicaid; and

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36 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that at the conclusion of such an assessment, a report  
37 of findings and recommendations be prepared and submitted to the general assembly so it can  
38 evaluate the effectiveness of the current quality of care within public programs, including  
39 Medicare and Medicaid, and in providing recommendations for improved health and well being  
40 of the affected patients; and

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42 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of  
43 Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for Margaret  
44 T. Donnelly, Director of the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services.

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