

1 HR266  
2 159587-1  
3 By Representative McClendon  
4 RFD:  
5 First Read: 04-MAR-14

8 RECOGNIZING MARCH 18TH AS MEDICATION ADHERENCE DAY  
9 AT THE ALABAMA STATE CAPITOL.

10  
11 WHEREAS, poor medication adherence is a national  
12 problem that creates serious health consequences and avoidable  
13 medical costs; and

14 WHEREAS, nearly 45 percent of the U.S. population  
15 has one or more chronic conditions that can be treated with  
16 medication; and

17 WHEREAS, one in three people never fill their  
18 prescription at all, half of patients with chronic diseases  
19 stop taking their medication within one year, and nearly three  
20 out of four Americans do not take their medication as  
21 directed; and

22 WHEREAS, 125,000 people in the U.S. die every year  
23 because they do not take their medication as directed; and

24 WHEREAS, poor medication adherence leads to  
25 increased doctor visits, emergency room trips, and other  
26 medical expenses; and

1                   WHEREAS, poor medication adherence is linked to 23  
2 percent of nursing home admissions and as many as 69 percent  
3 of medication-related hospital admissions; and

4                   WHEREAS, poor medication adherence costs the  
5 country's health system an estimated \$300 billion a year; and

6                   WHEREAS, for every dollar spent on adhering to a  
7 prescribed medication, medical costs would be reduced by \$7  
8 for people with diabetes, \$5.10 for people with high  
9 cholesterol, and \$3.98 for people with high blood pressure;  
10 and

11                  WHEREAS, improved adherence would reduce the number  
12 of Alabamians experiencing heart attacks, strokes, kidney  
13 failure, and untimely deaths due to untreated chronic  
14 diseases; now therefore,

15                  BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF  
16 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That March 18, 2014, is recognized  
17 as Medication Adherence Day at the Alabama State Capitol and  
18 all Alabamians are hereby urged to take their medication as  
19 directed.