

1 HR218
2 169089-1
3 By Representative Hall
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 07-MAY-15

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8 RECOGNIZING DIABETIC PERIPHERAL NEUROPATHY ALERT
9 DAY.

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11 WHEREAS, in the United States, it is estimated that
12 25.8 million people or 8.3 percent of the total population are
13 affected by diabetes; and

14 WHEREAS, the American Diabetes Association estimates
15 that over 60 percent of all people with diabetes suffer from
16 Diabetic Peripheral Neuropathy; and

17 WHEREAS, Diabetic Peripheral Neuropathy is a serious
18 condition that damages nerve fibers due to prolonged exposure
19 to high amounts of glucose in the bloodstream; and

20 WHEREAS, Diabetic Peripheral Neuropathy often causes
21 intense pain, frequently described as aching, tingling,
22 burning, and numbness of the feet, which frequently results in
23 serious foot problems due to nerve damage; and

24 WHEREAS, although it can hurt, diabetic nerve damage
25 can also lessen the ability to feel pain, heat, and cold,

1 which means that diabetic patients may not feel a foot injury
2 or even a stone in their shoe or a nail in their foot; and

3 WHEREAS, the rate of amputations in people with
4 diabetes is 10 times higher than for people without diabetes,
5 and studies show that more than 60 percent of nontraumatic
6 lower extremity amputations are due to Diabetic Peripheral
7 Neuropathy; and

8 WHEREAS, Diabetic Peripheral Neuropathy can occur
9 whether a person has Type I diabetes, also known as juvenile
10 diabetes, or Type II diabetes, which is typically adult-onset;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, Diabetic Peripheral Neuropathy accounts for
13 more diabetes related hospitalizations than any other
14 complication; and

15 WHEREAS, regular clinical screenings can reduce the
16 burden of Diabetic Peripheral Neuropathy; and

17 WHEREAS, quality measures, such as those put forth
18 by the Physician Quality Reporting System, can ensure that
19 patients are receiving appropriate evaluations needed to
20 prevent further complications resulting from poorly managed
21 Diabetic Peripheral Neuropathy; and

22 WHEREAS, these kinds of endorsed quality measures
23 should be considered for incorporation into new models of
24 health care payment and delivery, such as accountable care
25 organizations (ACOs); and

1 WHEREAS, it is important that Alabamians with
2 diabetes be aware of the dangers and warning signs of Diabetic
3 Peripheral Neuropathy and make healthy lifestyle choices to
4 prevent the onset of this life changing condition; now
5 therefore,

6 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
7 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That the members of this body
8 acknowledge the dangers of Diabetic Peripheral Neuropathy and
9 recognize a day in September 2015, as Diabetic Peripheral
10 Neuropathy Alert Day at the Capitol.

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the House
12 of Representatives is authorized and directed to transmit an
13 appropriate copy of this resolution to the Alabama chapter of
14 the American Diabetes Association.