

1 HJR236  
2 169305-1  
3 By Representative Hall  
4 RFD: Rules  
5 First Read: 14-MAY-15

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8 RECOGNIZING SEPTEMBER 2015 AS DIABETIC PERIPHERAL  
9 NEUROPATHY ALERT MONTH.

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

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

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

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

13           WHEREAS, regular clinical screenings can reduce the  
14 burden of Diabetic Peripheral Neuropathy; and

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

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

24           WHEREAS, it is important that Alabamians with  
25 diabetes be aware of the dangers and warning signs of Diabetic  
26 Peripheral Neuropathy and make healthy lifestyle choices to

1 prevent the onset of this life changing condition; now  
2 therefore,

3 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF  
4 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That the members of this body  
5 acknowledge the dangers of Diabetic Peripheral Neuropathy and  
6 recognize September 2015 as Diabetic Peripheral Neuropathy  
7 Alert Month at the Capitol.

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