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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 4014

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State of Washington                      56th Legislature                      1999 Regular Session

By Representatives Romero, Hankins, Grant, Ruderman and D. Schmidt

Read first time 02/18/1999. Referred to Committee on Health Care.

1            TO THE HONORABLE WILLIAM J. CLINTON, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED  
2 STATES, AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE  
3 OF REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF  
4 THE UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED:

5            We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of  
6 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully  
7 represent and petition as follows:

8            WHEREAS, Strokes are the leading cause of death in the United  
9 States of America; and

10           WHEREAS, Strokes are also the leading cause of disability in the  
11 United States; and

12           WHEREAS, The American Heart Association estimates that in this year  
13 alone in the United States approximately six hundred thousand strokes  
14 will occur, and that approximately two hundred thousand deaths will  
15 ensue as a result of these strokes; and

16           WHEREAS, The incidence of stroke in young people is increasing in  
17 the United States; and

18           WHEREAS, African-Americans have the highest incidence of stroke of  
19 any segment of the population in the United States; and

20           WHEREAS, While the ability to treat strokes in the last decade has  
21 increased significantly in the United States, a great deal of work must

1 still be done, especially in the areas of diagnosis, emergency  
2 treatment, and prevention; and

3 WHEREAS, Awareness of stroke risk and symptoms needs to be  
4 heightened among all Americans so that we will be alert to this risk;  
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Although it is the third leading cause of death in the  
7 United States, stroke risk in 1998 received the least amount of federal  
8 research funds of the five major diseases; and

9 WHEREAS, The American Heart Association is launching a nine-month,  
10 concerted effort to alert members of Congress about the urgent need and  
11 responsibility for more funding for stroke research;

12 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that the  
13 members of Congress increase federal funding for stroke research.

14 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately  
15 transmitted to the Honorable William J. Clinton, President of the  
16 United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker  
17 of the House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the  
18 State of Washington.

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