

2009 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 635

Offered January 14, 2009

Prefiled December 8, 2008

Designating May 17, in 2009 and in each succeeding year, as Women's Heart Day in Virginia.

Patrons—Sherwood, Athey, Lingamfelter, Loupassi and Peace

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, Women's Heart Day is recognized as an important day to be celebrated during Women's Health Week in Virginia, which is held each year on May 11 to May 17 to promote education and increase awareness of women's health issues; and

WHEREAS, Lisa Luh, Mrs. Virginia United States 2008 and spokesperson for the Heart Truth Campaign, celebrates with all Virginians the extraordinary progress in women's heart health and recognizes that more needs to be done to safeguard women's health for generations to come; and

WHEREAS, the Heart Truth Campaign is sponsored by the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute, which is part of the National Institutes of Health, Department of Health and Human Services, in partnership with the American Heart Association; and

WHEREAS, the Heart Truth Campaign and its Red Dress national symbol help to build awareness of women's heart disease and empower women in their fight to reduce risk and prevent disease; and

WHEREAS, heart disease is the number 1 killer of women; one in four American women dies of heart disease; and over half of women do not know that heart disease is a major woman's health problem; and

WHEREAS, the risk factors for heart disease are smoking, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, overweight and obesity, physical inactivity, diabetes, a family history of early heart disease, and a woman's age; and

WHEREAS, women can promote their own heart health and prevent disease and illness by taking steps to prevent and control heart disease risk factors; and

WHEREAS, keeping women healthy and promoting awareness of women's health issues, including heart health, is an important responsibility and depends on the active participation of individuals, families, public and private organizations, and support groups across the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, the commitment to keeping women healthy is stronger than ever, and all Virginians are encouraged to work together to promote and improve the health of women and increase awareness and understanding of women and heart disease; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly designate May 17, in 2009 and in each succeeding year, as Women's Heart Day in Virginia; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates post the designation of this day on the General Assembly's website.

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