

House Concurrent Resolution No. 17

93RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1431L.011

1 **Whereas**, congenital heart defects are the most frequently occurring birth defect
2 and the leading cause of birth defect related deaths worldwide; and
3

4 **Whereas**, more than one million families across America are facing the challenges
5 and hardships of raising children with congenital heart defects; and
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7 **Whereas**, each year 40,000 babies are born with congenital heart defects in the
8 United States; and
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10 **Whereas**, some congenital heart defects are not diagnosed until months or years
11 after birth; and
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13 **Whereas**, undiagnosed congenital heart conditions cause many cases of sudden
14 cardiac death in young athletes; and
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16 **Whereas**, despite these conditions, newborns and young athletes are not routinely
17 screened for congenital heart defects; and
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19 **Whereas**, Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Day provides an opportunity for
20 families whose lives have been affected to celebrate life and to remember loved ones lost, to
21 honor dedicated health professionals, and to meet others and know they are not alone; and
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23 **Whereas**, the establishment of Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Day will also
24 provide the opportunity to share experience and information with the public and the media in
25 order to raise public awareness about congenital heart defects:
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27 **Now, therefore, be it resolved** that the members of the House of
28 Representatives of the Ninety-third General Assembly, First Regular Session, the Senate
29 concurring therein, hereby recognize February 14, 2005, as Congenital Heart Defect Awareness
30 Day in Missouri.