

House Concurrent Resolution No. 15

94TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1608L.011

1 **Whereas**, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), also known as chronic
2 bronchitis and emphysema, is the fourth leading cause of death in the United States and the only
3 one of the top five causes of death for which the prevalence and death rate are rising; and
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5 **Whereas**, COPD is a chronic, progressive disease which impacts over 175,000
6 residents of Missouri and 24 million Americans; and
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8 **Whereas**, the annual cost to the nation for COPD in 2004 was estimated to be \$37
9 billion; and
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11 **Whereas**, early diagnosis and management of COPD can effectively reduce the
12 overall financial burden of the illness within public programs such as Medicaid; and
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14 **Whereas**, proper management of COPD can lead to improved quality of life and
15 self-sufficiency on the part of patients with COPD cared for within public programs; and
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17 **Whereas**, disease management has been demonstrated to reduce overall costs of
18 care and increase quality of life for patients with chronic diseases, especially when targeted to
19 appropriate conditions and patients; and
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21 **Whereas**, November is COPD Awareness Month and November 21, 2007, is
22 COPD Awareness Day:
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24 **Now, therefore, be it resolved** that the members of the House of
25 Representatives of the Ninety-fourth General Assembly, First Regular Session, the Senate
26 concurring therein, hereby recognize November 2007 as "COPD Awareness Month" and
27 November 21, 2007, as "COPD Awareness Day" in Missouri; and

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29 **Be it further resolved** that the General Assembly supports and encourages
30 the Division of Medical Services within the Department of Social Services in its efforts with
31 regard to disease management and including COPD in the Department's chronic care
32 improvement program in an effort to reduce the financial and clinical burden of COPD on the
33 Medicaid program and the citizens of Missouri.

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