

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION

No. 59

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

221st LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2024 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman HERB CONAWAY, JR.

District 7 (Burlington)

Assemblywoman LINDA S. CARTER

District 22 (Somerset and Union)

Assemblywoman TENNILLE R. MCCOY

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Co-Sponsored by:

**Assemblywoman Reynolds-Jackson, Assemblymen Freiman, Stanley and
Assemblywoman Speight**

SYNOPSIS

Designates November of each year as “Diabetes and Cardiovascular Disease Awareness Month.”

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 2/22/2024)

1 **A JOINT RESOLUTION** designating the month of November of each
2 year as “Diabetes and Cardiovascular Disease Awareness
3 Month.”
4

5 **WHEREAS**, According to the federal Centers for Disease Control and
6 Prevention (CDC) and the international World Health Organization
7 (WHO), diabetes is a chronic condition that occurs when the body
8 does not properly produce or use the hormone insulin, which
9 regulates blood sugar, and it affects more than 29 million
10 Americans; and

11 **WHEREAS**, The CDC recognizes that type 2 diabetes is the most
12 common form of diabetes, representing an estimated 90 to 95
13 percent of all diagnosed adult cases in the nation; and

14 **WHEREAS**, The American Diabetes Association has found that
15 diabetes is the seventh leading cause of death in the United States,
16 with more than seven million Americans undiagnosed and more
17 than 5,000 Americans diagnosed each day; and

18 **WHEREAS**, The World Heart Federation notes that cardiovascular
19 disease is the leading cause of death associated with diabetes and
20 results from complications associated with diabetes, such as high
21 blood sugar, high blood pressure, and obesity; and

22 **WHEREAS**, Cardiovascular disease is a term used by the American
23 Heart Association to describe problems with the heart and blood
24 vessels, including heart attack, heart failure, and stroke; and

25 **WHEREAS**, People with type 2 diabetes are at two to four times greater
26 risk for developing cardiovascular disease, and findings from a
27 recent study reveal that 52 percent of adults living with type 2
28 diabetes are unaware that they are at an increased risk; and

29 **WHEREAS**, According to the National Diabetes Education Program,
30 two out of three deaths in people with type 2 diabetes are attributed
31 to cardiovascular disease in the United States, accounting for 68
32 percent of deaths in people with type 2 diabetes; and

33 **WHEREAS**, The total health care costs for the treatment of diabetes
34 have been reported to be approximately \$245 billion annually, with
35 direct medical costs accounting for \$176 billion of the total costs in
36 2013 and cardiovascular disease accounting for 28 percent of total
37 costs; and

38 **WHEREAS**, In New Jersey, the amount paid by Medicare for type 2
39 diabetes and cardiovascular disease totals \$1,483,620,879 for 5,481
40 beneficiaries with prevalence reaching 9.7 percent; and

41 **WHEREAS**, The African American and Hispanic/Latino populations
42 have a higher risk of developing type 2 diabetes and associated
43 complications; and

44 **WHEREAS**, 13.7 percent of the African American population in New
45 Jersey’s Medicare community is diagnosed with type 2 diabetes and
46 cardiovascular disease, and the amount paid by Medicare in the
47 State totals \$276,869,510 for 813 beneficiaries; and

Diabetes is a chronic condition that occurs when the body does not properly produce or use the hormone insulin, which regulates blood sugar. The condition affects more than 29 million Americans and is the seventh leading cause of death in the United States, with more than seven million Americans undiagnosed and more than 5,000 Americans diagnosed each day. Type 2 diabetes is the most common form of diabetes, representing an estimated 90 to 95 percent of all diagnosed adult cases.

1 Cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death associated
2 with diabetes and accounts for 68 percent of deaths in people with
3 type 2 diabetes. People with type 2 diabetes also have a much
4 higher risk of developing cardiovascular disease in the first place.
5 Yet findings from a recent study reveal that 52 percent of adults
6 living with type 2 diabetes are unaware of this increased risk.
7 There are significant costs associated with the treatment of
8 patients with diabetes and cardiovascular disease, and Medicare
9 expenditures for this population in the State total nearly \$1.5 billion
10 for 5,481 beneficiaries. By increasing public awareness and
11 providing education about the cardiovascular risks associated with
12 diabetes, the State can improve the overall outcome of, and reduce
13 the financial burdens associated with, the illness.