

By: Representatives Aldridge, Bounds, Janus, Staples, Ward To: Rules

## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 54

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE OBSERVANCE OF  
2 FEBRUARY 7-14, 2006, AS CONGENITAL HEART DEFECTS AWARENESS WEEK  
3 IN MISSISSIPPI.

4 WHEREAS, congenital heart defects are the most frequently  
5 occurring birth defects and the leading cause of birth defect  
6 related deaths worldwide; and

7 WHEREAS, over a million families across America are facing  
8 the challenges and hardships of raising children with congenital  
9 heart defects; and

10 WHEREAS, approximately one in 125 children are born in the  
11 United States with congenital heart defects; and

12 WHEREAS, every year 40,000 babies are born in this country  
13 with congenital heart defects; and

14 WHEREAS, some congenital heart defects are not diagnosed  
15 until months or years after birth; and

16 WHEREAS, undiagnosed congenital heart conditions cause many  
17 cases of sudden cardiac death in young athletes; and

18 WHEREAS, despite these statistics, newborns and young  
19 athletes are not routinely screened for congenital heart defects;  
20 and

21 WHEREAS, a disproportionately small amount of funding is  
22 available for congenital heart defect research and support; and

23 WHEREAS, Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Week provides an  
24 opportunity for families whose lives have been affected to  
25 celebrate life and to remember loved ones lost, to honor dedicated  
26 health professionals, and to meet others and to know they are not  
27 alone; and

28           WHEREAS, the establishment of Congenital Heart Defect  
29 Awareness Week will provide the opportunity to share experiences  
30 and information with the public and the media, in order to raise  
31 public awareness regarding congenital heart defects:

32           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
33 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING  
34 THEREIN, That we recognize February 7-14, 2006, as Congenital  
35 Heart Defect Awareness Week in Mississippi.

36           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
37 furnished to members of the Capitol Press Corps.