

By: Representatives Hines, Brown

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 115

1 A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING APRIL AS NATIONAL MINORITY HEALTH
2 MONTH.

3 WHEREAS, April is National Minority Health Month and
4 recognized worldwide by the National Minority Health Group to
5 bring attention to the wide disparities between the health of
6 minorities and nonminorities; and

7 WHEREAS, the goal of the National Minority Health Group is
8 to close the disparities by creating solutions; and

9 WHEREAS, the solutions are created by building public and
10 private partnerships, fostering cultural competency among health
11 care providers, encouraging health education and training,
12 expanding the use of state-of-the-art technology, providing
13 leadership in the consistent, comparable, and predictable
14 monitoring and reporting of the health status of all vulnerable
15 populations, including, but not limited to, Blacks and African
16 Americans, Hispanics, Asians, Native Americans, Pacific Islanders,
17 Alaska Natives and Native Hawaiians; and

18 WHEREAS, African-American, American Indian and Puerto Rican
19 infants experience higher death rates than white infants and this
20 widening disparity is a trend that has persisted over the last
21 two decades; and

22 WHEREAS, African-American women are more than twice as likely
23 to die of cervical cancer as are white women and are more likely
24 to die of breast cancer than women of any other racial or ethnic
25 group; and

26 WHEREAS, heart disease and stroke are the leading causes of
27 death for all racial and ethnic groups in the United States, but

28 rates of death from diseases of the heart are significantly higher
29 among African-American adults; and

30 WHEREAS, in the year 2000, American Indians and Alaska
31 Natives were 2.6 times more likely, African Americans were 2.0
32 times more likely and Hispanics were 1.9 times more
33 likely to have "diagnosed" diabetes compared with non-Hispanic
34 Whites; and

35 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to
36 promote the health of all citizens:

37 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
38 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we recognize
39 April As National Minority Health Month.

40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
41 furnished to the National Minority Health Group and to the members
42 of the Capitol Press Corps.