



1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Cardiovascular disease (CVD) is the nation's  
3 number one killer, claiming the lives of more women than men  
4 each year; and

5 WHEREAS, Since 1984, more than 500,000 women die every year  
6 from CVD, equal to one death per minute; and

7 WHEREAS, Each year the economic burden of CVD is estimated  
8 to be over \$350 billion; and

9 WHEREAS, In Illinois, 30,713 people died of CVD in 2002;  
10 and

11 WHEREAS, Most women do not realize that CVD is their  
12 greatest health threat; and

13 WHEREAS, Symptoms of CVD in women generally are recognized  
14 later in life when other health challenges may also be present;  
15 and

16 WHEREAS, One in 2.4 deaths are from CVD and only 38 percent  
17 of women report that their doctors have discussed CVD with them  
18 when discussing their health; and

19 WHEREAS, Sixty-three percent of women who suddenly died  
20 from coronary heart disease had no previous symptoms of the  
21 disease; and

22 WHEREAS, The public does not recognize the fact that each  
23 year CVD claims more lives than the next seven causes of death  
24 combined; and

25 WHEREAS, The American Heart Association has launched a new  
26 initiative called "Go Red for Women" to help raise awareness of

1 women and heart disease and will focus on that theme during the  
2 American Heart Month in February and "National Wear Red for  
3 Women Day" on February 4, 2005; therefore, be it

4       RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
5 NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
6 we declare the month of February 2005, and every February  
7 thereafter, as American Heart Month in the State of Illinois  
8 and all citizens are urged to join in the commemoration of this  
9 important observance.