

1 A RESOLUTION establishing the fourth Wednesday in February to be
2 Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy Awareness Day in Kentucky.

3 WHEREAS, hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (HCM) is a chronic cardiovascular
4 disease involving the thickening of the heart muscle which can potentially lead to
5 debilitating symptoms and serious complications, including heart failure, atrial
6 fibrillation, stroke, and, in rare cases, sudden cardiac death; and

7 WHEREAS, HCM is the most common heritable heart disease, can affect anyone
8 regardless of age, gender, or ethnicity, and has a reported prevalence ranging from one in
9 200 to one in 500 in the general population; and

10 WHEREAS, an estimated 700,000 people in the United States have HCM, yet 85
11 percent of them may remain undiagnosed; and

12 WHEREAS, HCM shares symptoms with other common cardiovascular and
13 pulmonary diseases, such as shortness of breath, chest pain, fatigue, palpitations, and
14 fainting, making it difficult to distinguish HCM from these other diseases; and

15 WHEREAS, all-cause mortality risk is three to four times higher in patients with
16 HCM than the general population; and

17 WHEREAS, knowing one's medical history and any signs and symptoms of HCM
18 is an important first step in receiving an accurate diagnosis of HCM; and

19 WHEREAS, a healthcare provider may conduct several tests, including an
20 echocardiogram, a cardiac MRI, or genetic testing to confirm a family history of HCM,
21 and must examine the heart to diagnose HCM; and

22 WHEREAS, following a diagnosis of HCM, it is important for patients to work
23 with their healthcare provider to learn more about their disease and understand different
24 management options, including prescription medicines and surgical treatment options that
25 may help; and

26 WHEREAS, the fourth Wednesday in February is an appropriate day to observe
27 Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy Awareness Day;

1 NOW, THEREFORE,

2 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of*
3 *Kentucky:*

4 ➔Section 1. The Senate of the Commonwealth of Kentucky does hereby establish
5 the fourth Wednesday of February to be Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy Awareness Day.

6 ➔Section 2. The Senate acknowledges the critical importance of hypertrophic
7 cardiomyopathy awareness to improve cardiovascular health in the Commonwealth.

8 ➔Section 3. The Senate supports raising awareness of the consequences of
9 undiagnosed and untreated hypertrophic cardiomyopathy and the need to seek appropriate
10 care for hypertrophic cardiomyopathy as a serious public health issue.

11 ➔Section 4. The Senate respectfully requests the Governor to issue annually a
12 proclamation recognizing the fourth Wednesday in February in the Commonwealth of
13 Kentucky as Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy Awareness Day and calls upon the people in
14 the Commonwealth of Kentucky to observe the day with appropriate programs and
15 activities.

16 ➔Section 5. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this
17 Resolution to Senator Donald Douglas.