

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 74

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Whereas hydrocephalus is a serious neurological condition, characterized by the abnormal buildup of cerebrospinal fluids in the ventricles of the brain;

Whereas there is no known cure for hydrocephalus;

Whereas hydrocephalus affects an estimated one million Americans;

Whereas 1 or 2 in every 1000 babies are born with hydrocephalus;

Whereas over 375,000 older Americans have hydrocephalus, which often goes undetected or is misdiagnosed as dementia, Alzheimer’s disease, or Parkinson’s disease;

Whereas with appropriate diagnosis and treatment, people with hydrocephalus are able to live full and productive lives;

Whereas the standard treatment for hydrocephalus was developed in 1952, and carries multiple risks including shunt failure, infection, and overdrainage;

Whereas there are fewer than 10 centers in the United States specializing in the treatment of adults with normal pressure hydrocephalus;

Whereas each year, the people of the United States spend in excess of \$1 billion to treat hydrocephalus;

Whereas a September 2005 conference sponsored by 7 institutes of the National Institutes of Health—“Hydrocephalus: Myths, New Facts, Clear Directions”—resulted in efforts to initiate new, collaborative research and treatment efforts; and

Whereas the Hydrocephalus Association is one of the Nation’s oldest and largest patient and research advocacy and support networks for individuals suffering from hydrocephalus: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring), That—*

3 (1) the Congress commends the Director of the

4 National Institutes of Health for working with lead-

1 ing scientists and researchers to organize the first-
2 ever National Institutes of Health conference on hydro-
3 drocephalus; and

4 (2) it is the sense of the Congress that—

5 (A) the Director of the National Institutes
6 of Health should continue the current collabora-
7 tion with respect to hydrocephalus among the
8 National Eye Institute; the National Human
9 Genome Research Institute; the National Insti-
10 tute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering;
11 the National Institute of Child Health and
12 Human Development; the National Institute of
13 Neurological Disorders and Stroke; the Na-
14 tional Institute on Aging; and the Office of
15 Rare Diseases;

16 (B) further research into the epidemiology,
17 pathophysiology, disease burden, and improved
18 treatment of hydrocephalus should be conducted
19 or supported; and

20 (C) public awareness and professional edu-
21 cation regarding hydrocephalus should increase
22 through partnerships between the Federal Gov-

1 ernment and patient advocacy organizations,
2 such as the Hydrocephalus Association.

Passed the House of Representatives February 27,
2007.

Attest:

Clerk.

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Expressing the sense of the Congress regarding the need for additional research into the chronic neurological condition hydrocephalus, and for other purposes.