

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 523

Encouraging recognition, and supporting the goals and ideals, of National
Aphasia Awareness Month.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 27, 2007

Mr. MARKEY submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the
Committee on Energy and Commerce

RESOLUTION

Encouraging recognition, and supporting the goals and
ideals, of National Aphasia Awareness Month.

Whereas aphasia is a communication impairment caused by
brain damage, typically resulting from a stroke;

Whereas while aphasia is most often the result of stroke or
brain injury, it can also occur in other neurological dis-
orders, such as in the case of a brain tumor;

Whereas many people with aphasia also have weakness or pa-
ralysis in their right leg and right arm, usually due to
damage to the left hemisphere of the brain, which con-
trols language and movement on the right side of the
body;

Whereas the effects of aphasia may include a loss or reduction in ability to speak, comprehend, read, and write, while intelligence remains intact;

Whereas stroke is the third largest cause of death, ranking behind heart disease and cancer;

Whereas stroke is a leading cause of serious, long-term disability in the United States;

Whereas there are about 5 million stroke survivors alive in the United States;

Whereas it is estimated that there are about 750,000 strokes per year in the United States, with approximately one third of these resulting in aphasia;

Whereas aphasia affects at least 1,000,000 people in the United States;

Whereas more than 200,000 Americans acquire the disorder each year;

Whereas the National Aphasia Association is unique and provides communication strategies, support, and education for people with aphasia and their caregivers throughout the United States;

Whereas as an advocacy organization for people with aphasia and their caregivers, the National Aphasia Association envisions a world that recognizes this “silent” disability and provides opportunity and fulfillment for those affected by aphasia; and

Whereas National Aphasia Awareness Month is being commemorated in June 2007: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

1 (1) supports the goals and ideals of, and en-
2 courages all Americans to observe, National Aphasia
3 Awareness Month;

4 (2) recognizes that strokes, a primary cause of
5 aphasia, are the third largest cause of death and dis-
6 ability in the United States;

7 (3) acknowledges that aphasia deserves more
8 attention and study in order to find new solutions
9 for individuals experiencing aphasia and their care-
10 givers; and

11 (4) must make the voices of those with aphasia
12 heard because they are often unable to communicate
13 their condition to others.

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