

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 115
2 BY HEATON, FOEGE, SMITH, and UPMEYER
3 A Resolution to recognize May 2004 as hepatitis C
4 awareness and education month and to urge greater
5 public awareness and education regarding hepatitis C.
6 WHEREAS, hepatitis C is the most common chronic
7 bloodborne viral infection in the United States,
8 infecting 3.9 million people nationwide and an
9 additional 25,000 people each year, and is the leading
10 cause of liver disease; and
11 WHEREAS, sixty-seven percent of hepatitis C-
12 infected persons are chronically infected and
13 approximately 8,000 to 10,000 people in the United
14 States die each year from conditions caused by
15 hepatitis C; and
16 WHEREAS, there were 52,943 estimated cases of
17 hepatitis C in Iowa according to 2001 census data with
18 an additional 3,946 cases identified in Iowa between
19 January 1, 2002, and August 31, 2003; and
20 WHEREAS, there is no vaccine or cure for hepatitis
21 C and therefore emphasis must be placed on prevention
22 and public awareness to control the spread of this
23 potentially lethal disease; NOW THEREFORE,
24 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
25 That the members of the House of Representatives
26 recognize May 2004 as hepatitis C awareness and
27 education month; and
28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Iowa Department of
29 Public Health shall provide to the General Assembly
30 the findings of the task force for viral hepatitis;

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1 and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That upon adoption, the
3 Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives shall send
4 a copy of this Resolution to the Iowa Department of
5 Public Health.

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