



28 WHEREAS, stroke is a leading cause of serious long-term disability in the United  
29 States with approximately 4.8 million stroke survivors today;

30 WHEREAS, of the 25,387 Utahns who report having had a stroke, only 50% return to  
31 routine or self-care and 900 die each year from stroke;

32 WHEREAS, in 2004 the estimated direct and indirect cost of stroke was approximately  
33 \$53.6 billion;

34 WHEREAS, in Utah the annual cost of hospitalization due to stroke has increased by  
35 43% since 1993;

36 WHEREAS, the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Science has  
37 concluded that the fragmentation of the delivery of health care services frequently results in  
38 suboptimal treatment, safety concerns, and inefficient use of health care resources;

39 WHEREAS, the Institute of Medicine has recommended the establishment of  
40 coordinated systems of care that integrate preventative and treatment services and promote  
41 patient access to evidence-based care;

42 WHEREAS, the Utah Department of Health and the American Stroke Association Task  
43 Force are working on a systems approach that is necessary to effectuate true change in the way  
44 stroke is treated statewide, so that patients have access to the most advanced treatment in  
45 centers that are best designed and equipped to deal with the critical and time sensitive needs of  
46 stroke patients; and

47 WHEREAS, the main purpose of a statewide system of stroke treatment is to establish  
48 an effective approach to dealing with stroke patients, including assessing center designations,  
49 emergency medical service protocols and field triage, interfacility stroke transfer, and stroke  
50 data collection:

51 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah  
52 urges that public and private entities work with the Legislature to establish a cohesive  
53 statewide system of stroke care for all state residents stricken by stroke.

54 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the American  
55 Stroke Association Task Force within the American Heart Association, the Institute of  
56 Medicine of the National Academy of Science, and the Utah Department of Health.

**Legislative Review Note**

as of 2-2-05 10:38 AM

Based on a limited legal review, this legislation has not been determined to have a high probability of being held unconstitutional.

**Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel**

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**Fiscal Note**  
**Bill Number SJR014**

**Joint Resolution on Stroke Awareness**

*09-Feb-05*

*1:03 PM*

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**State Impact**

Mailing provisions of this resolution can be handled within existing budgets.

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**Individual and Business Impact**

No fiscal impact.

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**Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst**