

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 135

By Brooks H

A RESOLUTION to commemorate “Self-Care Month” in Tennessee.

WHEREAS, self-care is a lifelong daily habit of healthy lifestyle choices, good hygiene practices, prevention of infection and illness, avoiding unhealthy choices, monitoring for signs and symptoms of changes in health, knowing when to consult a healthcare practitioner, and knowing when it is appropriate to self-treat conditions; and

WHEREAS, the United States Food and Drug Administration deems over-the-counter medicines to be safe and effective for the self-care treatment of minor acute and chronic health conditions and symptoms, such as pain, the common cold, allergies, and other conditions that impact large segments of the population; and

WHEREAS, over-the-counter medicines are either developed as new nonprescription medicines or switched from existing prescription medicines; and

WHEREAS, over-the-counter nonprescription medicines are self-care products that consumers purchase in pharmacies, supermarkets, and retail stores, as well as online; and

WHEREAS, every dollar spent on over-the-counter medicines saves the United States healthcare system six to seven dollars each year, a savings totaling \$102 billion annually; and

WHEREAS, nonprescription medicines help ease the burden on healthcare practitioners, eliminating unnecessary medical examinations that could be avoided with appropriate self-care; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee benefits when its citizens practice appropriate self-care; achieving self-care’s potential is a shared opportunity for consumers, healthcare practitioners, policymakers, and regulators; and

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly encourage all Tennesseans to take advantage of self-care's potential to improve personal and public health; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby join with self-care advocates across the nation in commemorating February 2015 as "Self-Care Month" in Tennessee in recognition of the importance of increasing awareness of self-care and the value it represents to the citizens of this State.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.