

## House Resolution No. 763

**Whereas**, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives always welcome the opportunity to recognize those Show-Me State organizations which are dedicated to improving the quality of life in local communities and neighborhoods through funding medical research which helps ameliorate and eliminate the effects of disease; and

**Whereas**, the March of Dimes was founded in 1938 to lead the fight against crippling polio, a disease which was eliminated in the United States and throughout most of the world when a vaccine was developed by Jonas Salk, M.D.; and

**Whereas**, today's March of Dimes and its Greater Missouri Chapter have shifted the focus of their time and energy to the problems of premature birth and such neural tube defects as spina bifida; and

**Whereas**, the leading obstetrical problem in Missouri, prematurity is a serious and growing problem which affects more than one in every eight babies and which can have lifelong consequences, including chronic health problems, developmental disabilities, cerebral palsy, mental retardation, chronic lung disease, blindness, and hearing loss; and

**Whereas**, neural tube defects likewise have long-term consequences related to physical and mental impairments; and

**Whereas**, the March of Dimes Greater Missouri Chapter raised \$2.6 million in 2004, and the National March of Dimes returned \$4.2 million to Missouri in the form of lifesaving research; and

**Whereas**, the March of Dimes has partnered with the state of Missouri to improve newborn screening procedures and to improve Medicaid coverage for women of childbearing age and children; and

**Whereas**, on March 2, 2005, volunteers with March of Dimes organizations from Saint Louis, Springfield, Cape Girardeau, Joplin, Jefferson City, Columbia, Saint Joseph, and Kansas City will gather in Jefferson City to participate in Lobby Day 2005:

**Now, therefore, be it resolved** that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-third General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the long, productive history of the March of Dimes; to welcome the leaders and volunteers of the March of Dimes Greater Missouri Chapter to the state capitol on March 2, 2005, for Lobby Day activities; and to express our sincerest best wishes for continued success in supporting much-needed medical research; and

**Be it further resolved** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for presentation to the March of Dimes Greater Missouri Chapter.

Offered by Speaker Rod Jetton  
District No. 156

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives,  
Ninety-third General Assembly, First Regular Session, do  
certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House  
Resolution No. 763, adopted February 24, 2005.

---

Rod Jetton, Speaker