

House Resolution No.

Whereas, Spina Bifida is a neural tube defect that occurs within the first month of pregnancy resulting in an incomplete closure of the spinal column; and

Whereas, there are sixty million women at risk of giving birth to a child with Spina Bifida and each year approximately seven in ten thousand babies are affected by this devastating birth defect; and

Whereas, there are more than seventy thousand men, women, and children throughout the United States who are challenged by the nation's most common permanently disabling birth defect; and

Whereas, folic acid, taken as a daily vitamin supplement, prevents up to seventy percent of Spina Bifida incidents among pregnancies; and

Whereas, the Spina Bifida Association of America is the only national voluntary agency focused exclusively on serving those with Spina Bifida; and

Whereas, the mission of the Spina Bifida Association of America is to promote the prevention of Spina Bifida and to enhance the lives of all those affected; and

Whereas, founded in 1873 to address the specific needs of the Spina Bifida community, the Spina Bifida Association of America serves as the national representative of almost sixty chapters; and

Whereas, efforts of the Spina Bifida Association of America benefit thousands of infants, children, adults, parents, and professionals each year:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, join to applaud the efforts of the Spina Bifida Association of America in increasing recognition of Spina Bifida as a public health challenge and in fostering public awareness to promote the use of folic acid by all women of childbearing age; 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 the Spina Bifida Association of America.

Offered by _____
 Representative Jay Wasson
 District No. 141

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. ____, adopted _____, 2007.

 Rod Jetton, Speaker