



## 2015 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 20

March 27, 2015 - Introduced by Senators L. TAYLOR, VINEHOUT, HARRIS DODD, COWLES, WIRCH, OLSEN and RISSER, cosponsored by Representatives JOHNSON, BARCA, BERCEAU, JORGENSEN, GOYKE, POPE, SINICKI, SPREITZER, ZAMARRIPA, SUBECK and C. TAYLOR. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

1     **Relating to:** proclaiming September 2015 as Childhood Obesity Awareness Month.

2             Whereas, obesity has seen a dramatic increase in the United States from 1990  
3 through 2010, and is a serious health risk that we need to take action against today;  
4 and

5             Whereas, more than one-third of adults in the United States are obese, which  
6 equals 78.6 million Americans; and

7             Whereas, in 2012, 29.7 percent of adults in Wisconsin were considered obese,  
8 making us the 15th most obese state in the nation; and

9             Whereas, obesity-related conditions include heart disease, stroke, type 2  
10 diabetes, and certain types of cancer, which are some of the leading causes of  
11 preventable death; and

12             Whereas, not only are these conditions dangerous, they are also costly, with an  
13 estimated annual medical cost of obesity in the United States of about \$147 billion  
14 in 2008, and with the medical costs of those who are obese approximately \$1,429  
15 higher than those of normal weight; and

1           Whereas, in Wisconsin there are currently 470,136 cases of diabetes, 1,130,359  
2 cases of hypertension, 347,847 cases of heart disease, 1,124,133 cases of arthritis,  
3 and 89,046 cases of obesity-related cancer; and

4           Whereas, although these numbers are shocking and dramatic, they also give a  
5 glimpse at the true havoc obesity can cause on men's and women's bodies; and

6           Whereas, one of the first steps in reducing our nation's obesity crisis is  
7 educating children about the risks of obesity and leading them toward a healthy  
8 lifestyle; and

9           Whereas, it is important to educate our citizens about obesity-prevention and  
10 control programs, so as to ensure that they are eating healthy and spending time  
11 getting active and getting their heart rate up, which are two surefire ways to control  
12 and prevent obesity among youths and adults; and

13           Whereas, we must do all that we can to ensure that the rate of obesity starts  
14 to decline in order to prevent health risks; now, therefore, be it

15           ***Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That*** the legislature  
16 hereby proclaims September 2015 as Childhood Obesity Awareness Month in  
17 Wisconsin.

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(END)