



## 2009 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 10

1       **Relating to:** Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Week.

2               Whereas, congenital heart defects are the most frequently occurring birth  
3 defect and the leading cause of birth defect related deaths worldwide; and

4               Whereas, over a million families across America are facing the challenges and  
5 hardships of raising children with congenital heart defects; and

6               Whereas, every year 40,000 babies are born in the United States with  
7 congenital heart defects; and

8               Whereas, some congenital heart defects are not diagnosed until months or  
9 years after birth; and

10              Whereas, undiagnosed congenital heart conditions cause many cases of sudden  
11 cardiac death in young athletes; and

12              Whereas, despite these statistics, newborns and young athletes are not  
13 routinely screened for congenital heart defects; and

14              Whereas, Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Week provides an opportunity  
15 for families whose lives have been affected to celebrate life and to remember loved

1 ones lost, to honor dedicated health professionals, and to meet others and know they  
2 are not alone; and

3 Whereas, the American Heart Association and Mended Little Hearts of  
4 Southern Wisconsin believe the establishment of Congenital Heart Defect  
5 Awareness Week will also provide the opportunity to share experience and  
6 information with the public and the media, in order to raise public awareness about  
7 congenital heart defects; now, therefore, be it

8 ***Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That*** the Wisconsin  
9 legislature proclaims February 7 to 14, 2009, to be Congenital Heart Defect  
10 Awareness Week and encourages all citizens to increase awareness, education, and  
11 services for congenital heart defects, which each year affect thousands of babies in  
12 Wisconsin.

13 (END)