



2009 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 48

1 **Relating to:** Proclaiming May 2, 2009, as Pediatric Stroke Awareness Day.

2 Whereas, a stroke, also known as a “cerebrovascular accident,” is an acute
3 neurologic injury that occurs when the blood supply to a part of the brain is
4 interrupted by a clot in the artery or a burst of the artery; and

5 Whereas, a stroke is a medical emergency that can cause permanent neurologic
6 damage or even death if not promptly diagnosed and treated; and

7 Whereas, the risk of stroke in children is greatest in the first year of life,
8 particularly in the first month of life when neonatal stroke occurs in about one of
9 every 4,000 live births; and

10 Whereas, a baby can have a stroke before birth; and

11 Whereas, nearly six out of every 100,000 children have a stroke each year; and

12 Whereas, stroke is among the top ten causes of death for children in the United
13 States; and

14 Whereas, up to 25 percent of all children who experience a stroke die as a result;

15 and

1 Whereas, stroke recurs in 20 percent of children who have experienced a prior
2 stroke; and

3 Whereas, the death rate for children who experience a stroke before the age of
4 one year is the highest out of all age groups; and

5 Whereas, more than half of children who experience a stroke will suffer serious,
6 long-term neurological disabilities, including hemiplegia, which is paralysis of one
7 side of the body; seizures; speech and vision problems; and learning difficulties; and

8 Whereas, those disabilities may require lifelong physical, occupational, and
9 speech therapies, and surgeries; and

10 Whereas, the permanent health concerns and treatments resulting from
11 strokes that occur during childhood and young adulthood have a considerable impact
12 on children, families, and society; and

13 Whereas, very little is known about the cause, treatment, and prevention of
14 pediatric stroke; and

15 Whereas, medical research is the only means by which the citizens of the United
16 States can identify and develop effective treatment and prevention strategies for
17 childhood stroke; and

18 Whereas, early diagnosis and treatment of pediatric stroke greatly improves
19 the chances that the affected child will recover and not experience a recurrence; now,
20 therefore, be it

21 ***Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That*** the legislature
22 designates May 2, 2009, as “Pediatric Stroke Awareness Day” and urges the people
23 of Wisconsin to support the efforts, programs, services, and advocacy of

1 organizations that work to enhance public and clinical awareness of prenatal,
2 neonatal, and childhood stroke.

3 (END)