

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 69

BY SENATOR HINES

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To declare and designate May 4, 2006, as Together Rx Access Awareness Day.

WHEREAS, more than 800,000 Louisianans, totaling more than one out of five of the state's population do not have health insurance; and

WHEREAS, these uninsured Louisianans have limited access to proper health care; and

WHEREAS, Louisianans deserve to have access to the medications they need in order to care for their health; and

WHEREAS, in January 2005, the Together Rx Access™ Card Program was launched by Together Rx Access, LLC to help low-income, uninsured individuals gain access to prescription medicines, with most cardholders saving 25-40 percent on over 300 brand name prescription drugs and other products; and

WHEREAS, the card can be used at over 1,000 pharmacies in Louisiana, and some pharmacies offer savings on generic drugs as well; and

WHEREAS, this free, easy-to-use Together Rx Access Card was created by the following pharmaceutical companies: Abbott Laboratories; AstraZeneca; Bristol-Myers Squibb Company; GlaxoSmithKline; Janssen Pharmaceutica Products, LP.; Life Scan, a Johnson & Johnson Company; Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation; Ortho-McNeil Pharmaceutical, Inc.; Pfizer Inc.; Sanofi-aventis, Takeda Pharmaceutical North America, Inc.; and TAP Pharmaceutical Products, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Legislature commends the Together Rx Access Program and pharmaceutical companies that have joined in this initiative for their efforts to help uninsured Louisiana residents gain better access to prescription drugs and products; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Legislature commends the Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady Health System, Louisiana Hospital Association, VHA Gulf States, and Christus Health, representing more than three quarters of the hospitals in the state of Louisiana and many clinics for cooperating to help the uninsured during “Cover the Uninsured Week”; and

WHEREAS, on May 4, 2006, the above groups are partnering to announce an important statewide initiative to help uninsured residents gain access to healthcare; and

WHEREAS, greater awareness of the Together Rx Access Card would facilitate program enrollment and help serve the needs of those uninsured Louisiana families.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Legislature hereby declares and designates May 4, 2006, as Together Rx Access Awareness Day.

---

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

---

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES