

Senator Anderson offered the following resolution:

**Senate Resolution No. 11.**

A resolution to proclaim February 7-14, 2011, as Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Week in the state of Michigan.

Whereas, Congenital heart defects are the most frequently occurring birth defect and the leading cause of birth defect-related deaths worldwide; and

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

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

Whereas, Some congenital heart defects are not diagnosed until months or years after birth. Undiagnosed congenital heart conditions cause many cases of sudden cardiac death in young athletes; and

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

Whereas, A disproportionately small amount of funding is available for congenital heart defect research and support; and

Whereas, Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Week provides an opportunity for families whose lives have been affected to celebrate life and remember loved ones lost, to honor dedicated health professionals, and to meet others and know they are not alone; and

Whereas, The establishment of Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Week will also provide the opportunity to share experiences and information with the public and the media in order to raise public awareness about congenital heart defects; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That we hereby proclaim February 7-14, 2011, as Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Week. We encourage all citizens to increase awareness, education, and services for congenital heart defects which each year affect thousands of babies in Michigan; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to It's My Heart - Metro Detroit with our highest esteem.