



**A SENATORIAL STATEMENT
SUPPORTING HYPERTENSION/HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE
AWARENESS DAY**

WHEREAS, the health of our citizens is the foundation for a caring and productive society, and our future rests with our ability to adequately treat, and ultimately to prevent, a variety of illnesses including high blood pressure; and

WHEREAS, heart disease and stroke are the second and fourth leading causes of death in North Carolina, and high blood pressure, also known as hypertension, is a major and modifiable risk factor for heart disease and stroke and is a major contributor to adult disability; and

WHEREAS, in 2011, 32.4% of North Carolina adults reported a health professional telling them that they had high blood pressure; and

WHEREAS, about seven out of every 10 people having their first heart attack have high blood pressure and about eight out of every 10 people having their first stroke have high blood pressure; and

WHEREAS, adequate medical treatments and proven preventive health strategies, such as healthy lifestyles that include a low-salt diet with more fruits and vegetables, are beneficial; and

WHEREAS, high blood pressure patients who are treated earlier have a longer life expectancy; and

WHEREAS, education can help with early diagnosis, prevention, and better treatment;

NOW, THEREFORE, the third Wednesday of each May should be recognized as Hypertension/High Blood Pressure Awareness Day in North Carolina.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned certifies that the foregoing statement was read in the Senate and placed upon the Journal on the twenty-first day of May, 2014.



Louis M. Pate, Jr.
Submitted by Senator Louis Pate

Sarah Lane
Senate Principal Clerk