

Whereas, An individual suffering from a stroke can experience brain cell damage that could result in significant disability, such as paralysis, speech difficulties, emotional problems or death; and

Whereas, According to the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, stroke is the fourth leading cause of death in the country, accounting for approximately 130,000 deaths annually; and

Whereas, Additionally, every year approximately 795,000 people in the United States have a stroke, with 610,000 of these individuals experiencing a stroke for the first time while the remaining 185,000 endure a subsequent stroke; and

Whereas, Individuals can greatly reduce their risk of stroke by making lifestyle changes, including eating a healthy diet, maintaining a healthy weight, engaging in physical activity, not smoking and limiting alcohol use, and taking preventive medication; and

Whereas, In 2011, it was estimated that the annual cost of stroke in the United States is an estimated \$54 billion, factoring in the cost of health care services, medications and missed days of work; and

Whereas, According to the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association, death rates from stroke have dropped 70 percent since 1940, due in large part to National Institutes of Health (NIH) funded research; and

Whereas, However, the NIH dedicates a mere one percent of its budget towards research on stroke prevention and treatment; and

Whereas, Additional budget cuts required by the Budget Control Act of 2011 will continue to threaten and undermine these positive strides; and

Whereas, Given the tremendous impact that stroke has on the United States, it is necessary to invest in developing prevention options and treatment options to improve the health of all Americans; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Council of the City of New York calls upon the United States Congress and the President of the United States to increase funding for research on stroke prevention and treatment.

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