

Rep. Barnett offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 97.

A resolution to declare October 20, 2011, as Osteoporosis Awareness and Prevention Day in the state of Michigan.

Whereas, Osteoporosis, a disease characterized by low bone mass, structural deterioration of bone, and increased susceptibility to fractures, is a public health threat for an estimated 52 million Americans and more than 1.5 million Michigan residents; and

Whereas, In Michigan, more then 350,00 individuals already have the disease and nearly 1.2 million are estimated to have low bone mass, placing them at increased risk for osteoporosis; and

Whereas, One in two women and up to one in four men over age 50 will have an osteoporosis-related fracture in her or his remaining lifetime; and

Whereas, Building strong bones during childhood and adolescence can be the best defense against developing osteoporosis later; and

Whereas, Osteoporosis is often thought of as an older person's disease, but bone health is a concern for any age; and

Whereas, Substantial risk has been reported in people of all ethnic backgrounds; and

Whereas, Although osteoporosis often has no symptoms in its early stages, a bone mineral density test can be used to assess fracture risk and to establish the diagnosis and severity of the disease in people at risk before they start fracturing their bones; and

Whereas, In 2005, osteoporosis was responsible for an estimated 2 million fractures and \$19 billion in costs; and

Whereas, The Surgeon General believes that bone health is critically important to the overall health and quality of the life of Americans; that it is in jeopardy and will only get worse if left unchecked. Great improvements in the bone health status of Americans can be made by applying what is already known about early prevention, assessment, diagnosis, and treatment; and

Whereas, Optimum bone health and prevention of osteoporosis can be maximized by a balanced diet rich in calcium and vitamin D, weight-bearing exercise, and a healthy lifestyle with no smoking or excessive alcohol intake; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of this legislative body declare October 20, 2011, as Osteoporosis Awareness and Prevention Day in the state of Michigan. We support the goals and ideals of Osteoporosis Awareness and Prevention Day and urge the people of Michigan to observe appropriate programs and activities with respect to osteoporosis, including talking with their health care professionals about their bone health.