

Senate Resolution 347

By: Senators James of the 28th, Jones II of the 22nd, Harrell of the 40th, Wicks of the 34th, Davenport of the 17th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the work of German dermatologist Josef Jadassohn who invented the innovative
2 patch-testing medical technique in 1895 and encouraging medical practitioners to consider
3 applying patch-testing for patients with a clinical history of metal hypersensitivity prior to
4 certain implantation operations; and for other purposes.

5 WHEREAS, most implants used in orthopedic operations are composed of metal alloys that
6 contain common contact allergens, such as nickel, cobalt, and chromium; and

7 WHEREAS, more than 1 million lower extremity total joint replacements are completed
8 yearly in the United States and are expected to increase in the coming years; and

9 WHEREAS, allergic complications to metal implants often cause problems such as chronic
10 joint pain, dermatitis, and joint failure; and

11 WHEREAS, nickel is commonly used in alloys due to its strength and durability; and

12 WHEREAS, many cases of metal hypersensitivity are due to contact with alloys containing
13 nickel; and

14 WHEREAS, surgeons and dermatologists commonly rely on patch-testing to evaluate
15 patients for potential metal allergy; and

16 WHEREAS, the value of patch-testing for patients with a clinical history of metal
17 hypersensitivity before implants are placed into bones or joints has been acknowledged by
18 research published in JAMA Dermatology, a journal of the American Medical Association.

19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
20 recognize the memory and contributions of medical pioneer Josef Jadassohn and encourage
21 medical practitioners to consider applying patch-testing when evaluating patients with a
22 clinical history of metal hypersensitivity prior to certain implantation operations.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that surgeons and dermatologists are encouraged to work
24 together to establish guidelines to identify patients who would benefit from replacements of
25 previously implanted contact allergens.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
27 to make copies of this resolution available for distribution to the public and the press.