

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 56

Unofficial  
Relating to May as Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Month in Missouri.

Whereas, cystic fibrosis, commonly referred to as "CF", is a genetic disease affecting approximately 30,000 children and adults in the United States and nearly 70,000 children and adults worldwide, over 700 of whom live in Missouri; and

Whereas, a defective gene causes the body to produce an abnormally thick, sticky mucus that clogs the lungs, and these secretions produce life-threatening lung infections and obstruct the pancreas, preventing digestive enzymes from reaching the intestines to help break down and absorb food; and

Whereas, more than 10 million Americans are symptomless carriers of the defective CF gene, and CF occurs in approximately one of every 3,500 live births in the United States; and

Whereas, the median age of survival for a person with CF is 39.3 years; and

Whereas, with advances in the treatment of CF, the number of adults with CF has steadily grown, and approximately 900 new cases of CF are diagnosed each year; and

Whereas, 50% of the CF population is 18 years of age and older, and people with CF have a variety of symptoms attributed to the more than 1,800 mutations of the CF gene; and

Whereas, infant blood screening to detect genetic defects is the most reliable and least costly method to identify persons likely to have CF; and

Whereas, early diagnosis of CF permits early treatment and enhances quality of life and longevity and the treatment of CF depends on the stage of the disease and the organs involved; and

Whereas, clearing mucus from the lungs is an important part of the daily CF treatment regimen, and other types of treatments include inhaled antibiotics and pancreatic enzymes; and

Whereas, there are 8 world-class treatment centers in Missouri which specialize in the diagnosis of CF and the care of persons with CF; and

Whereas, a critical component of treating patients with CF includes access to innovative treatments, which can play a crucial role in the lives of patients with CF; and

Whereas, improving the length and quality of life for people with CF starts with awareness:

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the members of the Missouri Senate, Ninety-eighth General

Assembly, Second Regular Session, the House of Representatives concurring therein, hereby designate every month of May as "Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Month" in Missouri; and

Be It Further Resolved that the Secretary of the Senate be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution to the Governor for his approval or rejection pursuant to the Missouri Constitution.

Resolution

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