

2021 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 89

BY REPRESENTATIVE BAGLEY

A RESOLUTION

To designate the month of May 2021 as Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Month in Louisiana.

WHEREAS, cystic fibrosis, commonly referred to as CF, is a genetic disease that affects approximately 30,000 children and adults in the United States, approximately 350 of whom live in Louisiana, and nearly 70,000 children and adults worldwide; and

WHEREAS, in the case of CF, a defective gene causes the body to produce an abnormally thick and sticky mucus that clogs the lungs, and these secretions produce life-threatening lung infections and obstruct the pancreas, thereby 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 46 years; and

WHEREAS, with advances in the treatment of CF, the number of adults living with CF has steadily grown, and approximately 1,000 new cases of CF are diagnosed each year; and

WHEREAS, 56% of persons with CF are 18 years of age and older, and people with CF have a variety of symptoms attributed to the more than 1,700 mutations of the CF gene; and

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

WHEREAS, early diagnosis of CF permits early treatment and enhances quality of life and longevity; and

WHEREAS, 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, among others; and

WHEREAS, there are four world-class treatment centers in Louisiana 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 increasing awareness.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby designate May 2021 as Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Month in Louisiana and does hereby encourage all citizens of the state of Louisiana to raise awareness of this debilitating disease.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES