

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 99

BY SENATOR MCMATH

A RESOLUTION

To designate May 22, 2025, as Celiac Disease Awareness Day at the Louisiana State Capitol.

WHEREAS, celiac disease is one of the world's most prevalent genetic autoimmune diseases, affecting an estimated three million Americans, seventy to eighty percent of whom are undiagnosed; and

WHEREAS, celiac disease causes the body to attack its own small intestine, which can lead to many other devastating health conditions, including cancer; and

WHEREAS, celiac disease results in extraordinary economic and productivity costs to both the public and private sectors from employee and student absenteeism, as well as repeated, inconclusive visits to healthcare providers; and

WHEREAS, on average, it takes four years to be correctly diagnosed with celiac disease; and

WHEREAS, there is no medication or cure for celiac disease and the only treatment is a lifelong, strict gluten-free diet; and

WHEREAS, studies show that up to fifty percent of people on a gluten-free diet continue to experience symptoms and have intestinal damage, revealing the ineffectiveness of the gluten-free diet as a treatment; and

WHEREAS, the Celiac Disease Foundation is a national, nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life and health of individuals with celiac disease by advancing government support for biomedical research to develop diagnostic tools, life-improving treatments, and a cure for celiac disease, and to raise public awareness of this serious disease.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the work of the Celiac Disease Foundation and designates May 22, 2025, as Celiac Disease Awareness Day at the Louisiana State Capitol.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to chief executive officer of the Celiac Disease Foundation.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE