

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 198

BY REPRESENTATIVE WHITNEY

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To recognize the month of September as Leukodystrophy Awareness Month.

WHEREAS, leukodystrophy is identified as a rare and terminal disease presenting itself in multiple manifestations that attack the central nervous system severely impacting physical abilities, mental capacity, and quality of life for hundreds of Louisianans and thousands of Americans every year; and

WHEREAS, the group of rare disorders known as leukodystrophies destroys the central nervous system by disrupting the growth and maintenance of myelin, a sheath that insulates nerve cells and destroys white matter in the brain; and

WHEREAS, an estimated two out of ten thousand people from infants to adults in their sixth decade of life are impacted every year by one of forty-six categorized and even more unidentified forms of leukodystrophy; and

WHEREAS, research to understand and possibly one day treat these conditions has been identified by neurological researchers in Louisiana, the United States, and scientists around the globe; and

WHEREAS, organizations, including but not limited to the Adrenoleukodystrophy Foundation, the MLD Foundation, the Stennis Foundation, the Southeast Neuroscience Center, and the United Leukodystrophy Foundation, have dedicated their work to public education, disease research, and patient treatment; and

WHEREAS, in 2013, Terrebonne Parish became the first governing body in Louisiana to officially recognize by public proclamation the need for awareness and treatment of this category of diseases, and since then multiple states have added their support in fighting this condition.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize the month of September as Leukodystrophy Awareness Month and encourage the citizens of this state to learn about this condition, contribute to efforts in fighting the disease, and wear blue as a visual sign of support.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE