

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 79

BY REPRESENTATIVE YOUNG

A RESOLUTION

To designate May 2025 as Myositis Awareness Month in Louisiana.

WHEREAS, idiopathic inflammatory myopathies, which are collectively referred to as myositis, are rare and chronic autoimmune muscle wasting diseases that often feature debilitating muscle inflammation and other symptoms, including pain, fatigue, and trouble swallowing; they can lead to myositis-associated interstitial lung diseases; and

WHEREAS, nearly 10% of Americans suffer from rare diseases like myositis, and more research is needed to identify the causes of and modes of treatment for the myositis group diseases, which includes anti-MDA5 autoantibody positive myositis, antisynthetase syndrome, dermatomyositis, juvenile dermatomyositis, immune-mediated necrotizing myopathy, inclusion myositis, and polymyositis; and

WHEREAS, myositis is difficult to diagnose, which often leads to delayed treatment, and patients generally experience difficulty in finding a healthcare provider who specializes in the myositis group diseases; and

WHEREAS, there are no known cures for myositis, and individuals diagnosed with these diseases experience a reduced quality of life and shortened life expectancy, particularly those suffering from inclusion body myositis; among those diagnosed with myositis, women and people of color experience especially pronounced health disparities; and

WHEREAS, The Myositis Association is the leading international patient advocacy organization serving the myositis community; the organization focuses on patient services, education, research, and raising public awareness to achieve a world without myositis, and the association is organizing a national observance of Myositis Awareness Month throughout May 2025.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby designate May 2025 as Myositis Awareness Month in Louisiana and does hereby encourage all Louisianians to join together and learn more about the forms of myositis and its symptoms to better support the families who have faced this struggle alone for far too long.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES