

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 111

BY SENATOR WARD

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To designate March 28, 2015, as "Prader-Willi Syndrome Day" in Louisiana in honor of Cooper McReynolds.

WHEREAS, Prader-Willi Syndrome (PWS) is a genetic disorder which is congenital and affects an estimated one in thirty thousand people worldwide; and

WHEREAS, Cooper McReynolds was diagnosed with PWS, of which there are currently an average of thirty children in Louisiana with PWS; and

WHEREAS, people with this rare disease typically have mild to moderate intellectual impairment, learning disabilities, and behavioral problems requiring physical, occupational and speech therapies; and

WHEREAS, beginning in childhood, affected individuals develop an insatiable appetite, which leads to chronic overeating and obesity which often results in type 2 diabetes; and

WHEREAS, most affected individuals are deemed infertile and although inherited, the disease is a result of genetic changes that occur as random events during the formation of reproductive cells or in early embryonic development; and

WHEREAS, Cooper McReynolds is a beacon of light and a champion for spreading awareness of this rare disease as he exhibits great hope and courage while coping with the daily struggles inflicted by this disease.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby designate March 28, 2015, as "Prader-Willi Syndrome Day" in Louisiana in honor of Cooper McReynolds and the efforts of his family in bringing awareness of this dreaded rare disease to citizens of our state.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Cooper McReynolds.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES