

109TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. CON. RES. 178

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 30, 2005

Received and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and  
Pensions

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## CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Recognizing the need to pursue research into the causes, a treatment, and an eventual cure for idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis, supporting the goals and ideals of National Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis Awareness Week, and for other purposes.

Whereas idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis is a serious lung disorder causing progressive, incurable lung scarring;

Whereas idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis is one of about 200 disorders called interstitial lung diseases;

Whereas idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis is the most common form of interstitial lung disease;

Whereas idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis is a debilitating and generally fatal disease marked by progressive scarring of the lungs, causing an irreversible loss of the lung tissue's ability to transport oxygen;

Whereas idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis progresses quickly, often causing disability or death within a few short years;

Whereas there is no proven cause of idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis;

Whereas approximately 83,000 United States citizens have idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis, and 31,000 new cases are diagnosed each year;

Whereas idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis is often misdiagnosed or underdiagnosed;

Whereas the median survival rate for idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis patients is 2 to 3 years, and about two thirds of idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis patients die within 5 years; and

Whereas a need has been identified to increase awareness and detection of this misdiagnosed and underdiagnosed disorder: Now, therefore, be it

1        *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*  
2   *concurring)*, That the Congress—

3            (1) recognizes the need to pursue research into  
4            the causes, a treatment, and an eventual cure for id-  
5            iopathic pulmonary fibrosis;

6            (2) supports the work of advocates and organi-  
7            zations in educating, supporting, and providing hope  
8            for individuals who suffer from idiopathic pulmonary

1       fibrosis, including efforts to organize a National Idi-  
2       opathic Pulmonary Fibrosis Awareness Week;

3           (3) supports the designation of an appropriate  
4       week as National Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis  
5       Awareness Week;

6           (4) encourages the President to issue a procla-  
7       mation designating a National Idiopathic Pulmonary  
8       Fibrosis Awareness Week;

9           (5) congratulates advocates and organizations  
10      for their efforts to educate the public about idio-  
11      pathic pulmonary fibrosis, while funding research to  
12      help find a cure for this disorder; and

13          (6) supports the goals and ideals of National  
14      Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis Awareness Week.

Passed the House of Representatives September 29,  
2005.

Attest:

JEFF TRANDAHL,

*Clerk.*

By GERASIMOS C. VANS,

*Deputy Clerk.*