

109TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. CON. RES. 457

Supporting the goals and ideals of National Celiac Awareness Month, and  
for other purposes.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 27, 2006

Mrs. LOWEY submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred  
to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

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## CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Supporting the goals and ideals of National Celiac Awareness  
Month, and for other purposes.

Whereas celiac disease, or gluten intolerance, is a genetic autoimmune disease that affects 1 of every 133 people in the United States;

Whereas research indicates that there are approximately 2,500,000 people with celiac disease in the United States, yet only approximately 80,000 of those have been diagnosed;

Whereas approximately 1 in 22 first-degree relatives of people diagnosed with celiac disease will also be diagnosed with celiac disease;

Whereas the average timeframe for diagnosing celiac disease in the United States is 11 years from the original onset of symptoms;

Whereas celiac disease affects equal percentages of men and women;

Whereas celiac disease may have severe and varied detrimental effects on the body, and the healthcare costs associated with celiac disease are unknown;

Whereas people with celiac disease tend to have other autoimmune diseases as well;

Whereas the only known treatment for celiac disease is strict adherence to a gluten-free diet;

Whereas increased recognition and awareness of celiac disease will have a significant positive impact on the quality of life of people with celiac disease; and

Whereas the Celiac Disease Foundation has designated May as National Celiac Awareness Month: Now, therefore, be it

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

3                (1) supports the goals and ideals of National  
4        Celiac Awareness Month;

5                (2) should work with health care providers and  
6        celiac disease advocacy and education organizations  
7        to encourage screening and early detection of celiac  
8        disease; and

- 1 (3) should increase Federal funding for celiac
- 2 disease research.

