

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 211

Designating August 19, 2005, as “National Dyspraxia Awareness Day” and expressing the sense of the Senate that all Americans should be more informed of dyspraxia.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 26, 2005

Ms. LANDRIEU submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

RESOLUTION

Designating August 19, 2005, as “National Dyspraxia Awareness Day” and expressing the sense of the Senate that all Americans should be more informed of dyspraxia.

Whereas an estimated 1 in 20 children suffers from the developmental disorder dyspraxia;

Whereas 70 percent of those affected by dyspraxia are male;

Whereas dyspraxics may be of average or above average intelligence but are often behaviorally immature;

Whereas symptoms of dyspraxia consist of clumsiness, poor body awareness, reading and writing difficulties, speech problems, and learning disabilities, though not all of these will apply to every dyspraxic;

Whereas there is no cure for dyspraxia, but the earlier a child is treated the greater the chance of developmental maturation;

Whereas dyspraxics may be shunned within their own peer group because they do not fit in;

Whereas most dyspraxic children are dismissed as “slow” or “clumsy” and are therefore not properly diagnosed;

Whereas more than 50 percent of educators have never heard of dyspraxia;

Whereas education and information about dyspraxia are important to detection and treatment; and

Whereas the Senate as an institution, and Members of the Senate as individuals, are in unique positions to help raise the public awareness about dyspraxia: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved, That—*

2 (1) the Senate designates August 19, 2005, as
3 “National Dyspraxia Awareness Day”; and

4 (2) it is the sense of the Senate that—

5 (A) all Americans should be more informed
6 of dyspraxia, its easily recognizable symptoms,
7 and its proper treatment;

8 (B) the Secretary of Education should es-
9 tablish and promote a campaign in elementary
10 and secondary schools across the Nation to en-
11 courage the social acceptance of dyspraxic chil-
12 dren; and

- 1 (C) the Federal Government has a respon-
2 sibility to—
- 3 (i) endeavor to raise awareness about
4 dyspraxia;
- 5 (ii) consider ways to increase the
6 knowledge of possible therapy and access
7 to health care services for people with
8 dyspraxia; and
- 9 (iii) endeavor to inform educators on
10 how to recognize dyspraxic symptoms and
11 to appropriately handle this disorder.

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