

113TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. RES. 366

Expressing support for the goals and ideals of Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 27, 2014

Mr. CASEY (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. JOHANNES, Mr. ISAKSON, and Mr. BROWN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Expressing support for the goals and ideals of Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week.

Whereas multiple sclerosis (MS) can impact people of all ages, races, and ethnicities;

Whereas MS is 2 to 3 times more common in women than in men;

Whereas while MS is not directly inherited, studies show there are genetic and, probably, environmental, ethnic, and geographic factors that make certain individuals more susceptible to the disease;

Whereas worldwide, there are approximately 2,300,000 people who have been diagnosed with MS;

Whereas MS is typically diagnosed between the ages of 20 and 50, however, it is estimated that between 8,000 and 10,000 children and adolescents in the United States are living with MS;

Whereas MS is an unpredictable neurological disease that interrupts the flow of information within the brain and between the brain and the rest of the body;

Whereas symptoms of MS range from numbness and tingling in the extremities to blindness and paralysis, and the progress, severity, and specific symptoms of MS in any affected individual cannot yet be predicted;

Whereas there is no single laboratory test available that provides a definitive diagnosis for MS;

Whereas the exact cause of MS is still unknown, and there is no cure;

Whereas the Multiple Sclerosis Coalition, a national network of independent organizations dedicated to enhancing quality of life for all those affected by MS, recognizes and supports Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week during March of every year;

Whereas the mission of the Multiple Sclerosis Coalition is to enhance cooperation among organizations to provide greater benefits to individuals and families affected by MS;

Whereas the goals of Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week are to invite people to join the movement to end MS, encourage people to demonstrate their commitment to moving toward a world free from MS, and acknowledge those who have dedicated their time and talent to advancing MS research and programs; and

Whereas this year Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week is being recognized during the week of March 3, 2014, through March 9, 2014: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) supports the goals and ideals of Multiple
3 Sclerosis Awareness Week;

4 (2) supports promoting awareness of individuals
5 who are affected by multiple sclerosis;

6 (3) encourages States, localities, and the terri-
7 tories and possessions of the United States to sup-
8 port the goals and ideals of Multiple Sclerosis
9 Awareness Week by issuing proclamations desig-
10 nating March 3, 2014, through March 9, 2014, as
11 Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week;

12 (4) commends the efforts of States, localities,
13 and the territories and possessions of the United
14 States to support the goals and ideals of Multiple
15 Sclerosis Awareness Week;

16 (5) encourages media organizations to partici-
17 pate in Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week by edu-
18 cating the public about multiple sclerosis;

19 (6) recognizes and reaffirms the commitment of
20 the United States to ending multiple sclerosis by
21 supporting multiple sclerosis research and education
22 programs;

1 (7) supports all individuals in the United States
2 living with multiple sclerosis;

3 (8) expresses gratitude to the family and
4 friends of individuals living with multiple sclerosis,
5 who are a source of love and encouragement to those
6 individuals; and

7 (9) salutes the health care professionals and
8 medical researchers who—

9 (A) provide assistance to individuals af-
10 fected by multiple sclerosis; and

11 (B) continue to work towards finding new
12 ways to stop the progression of the disease,
13 treat its symptoms, and end multiple sclerosis
14 forever.

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