

2016 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 137

BY REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMANN

SPECIAL DAY/WEEK/MONTH: Designates the month of May, 2016, as Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Month in Louisiana

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To designate the month of May 2016 as Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Month in Louisiana.

3 WHEREAS, cystic fibrosis, known as CF, affects cells that produce mucus,
4 perspiration, and digestive juices in the human body; and

5 WHEREAS, these normally thin, slippery fluids are rendered thick and sticky, and
6 rather than acting as lubricants, the cells affected by CF plug tubes, ducts, and passageways,
7 especially in the lungs and pancreas; and

8 WHEREAS, CF affects roughly seventy thousand people around the world, and thirty
9 thousand of those adults and children live in the United States; and

10 WHEREAS, advances in treatment and improvements leading to earlier detection of
11 this disease have led to people living longer with CF and an increase in the number of people
12 suffering from this debilitating condition; and

13 WHEREAS, throughout the world, more than half of those living with CF are
14 children, and one thousand new cases of this disabling condition are diagnosed each year;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, CF is a genetic defect, and in order for a child to have CF, both parents
17 must carry the defective gene, which is recessive, and pass those flawed genes on to the
18 child; and

19 WHEREAS, CF causes progressive damage to the respiratory system, and chronic
20 digestive system problems are among the most common manifestations of CF; and

1 WHEREAS, respiratory damage is caused by mucus build-up in the lungs and
2 bacterial infections which eventually lead to permanent lung damage, including the
3 formation of scar tissue or fibrosis which impedes the ability of the lungs to inflate and
4 deflate; and

5 WHEREAS, CF affects a specific protein called cystic fibrosis transmembrane
6 conductance regulator that controls the normal movement of chloride, as well as water, in
7 and out of cells throughout the body; and

8 WHEREAS, CF causes the ducts of the pancreas to become blocked, causing fibrosis
9 of the pancreas which causes reduced absorption of fat and vitamins and can result in "cystic
10 fibrosis-related diabetes"; and

11 WHEREAS, almost half of all those affected with CF today are over eighteen years
12 of age; and

13 WHEREAS, infant blood screening to detect genetic defects is the most reliable and
14 least costly method to identify persons likely to have CF; and

15 WHEREAS, early diagnosis of CF permits early treatment and enhances the life
16 expectancy and improves the quality of life of those living with CF; and

17 WHEREAS, the average life expectancy of those with CF has been steadily
18 increasing since the 1950s and is currently nearly forty years; and

19 WHEREAS, a critical component of treating patients with CF includes access to
20 innovative treatments which can effect both longevity and quality of life; and

21 WHEREAS, improving both length and quality of life for people with CF begins
22 with earlier diagnosis and a greater awareness of the disease and its consequences.

23 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
24 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby designate the month of May 2016 as Cystic Fibrosis
25 Awareness Month in Louisiana.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
27 executive director of the Baton Rouge-Louisiana Chapter of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HR 137 Original

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