

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 33

BY SENATOR PEACOCK AND REPRESENTATIVE SEABAUGH

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To designate May 17, 2017, as Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma Awareness Day in the state of Louisiana and to raise awareness of this devastating childhood cancer.

WHEREAS, Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma (DIPG) is the second most common malignant brain tumor found in children and the leading cause of childhood death due to brain tumors; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the leading national public health institute of the United States, announced that brain tumors have become the leading cause of childhood cancer deaths, surpassing leukemia; and

WHEREAS, DIPG is an aggressive tumor that interferes with the neural activity of all essential bodily functions that include heartbeat, breathing, swallowing, eye movement, eyesight, and balance; and

WHEREAS, this brainstem tumor impacts nearly four hundred children in the United States each year and, from the time of diagnosis until death, the median survival time is nine months; and

WHEREAS, DIPG is an aggressive cancer and it has no cure; essentially, it has a zero percent survival rate; the only recognized palliative treatment is radiation and there are some rare neuro-oncology clinical trials that implement intravenous therapy; and

WHEREAS, presently only four percent of the National Cancer Institute budget is appropriated to pediatric cancer study and only a small portion of that amount is dedicated to pediatric brain cancer research; and

WHEREAS, the Michael Mosier Foundation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to fundraising efforts, it advocates the continued search for a cure and increased awareness of this debilitating form of childhood cancer, and it provides information and solace to parents burdened with this severe prognosis; and

WHEREAS, May is National Brain Tumor Awareness Month and the proclamation of May 17, 2017, as Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma Awareness Day will bring attention to this deadly form of pediatric cancer.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby designate May 17, 2017, as Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma Awareness Day in the state of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby wish to raise awareness of Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma (DIPG), a devastating form of childhood cancer.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Trey Gibson.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES