

2023 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 97

BY REPRESENTATIVE WHEAT

SPECIAL DAY/WEEK/MONTH: Recognizes May 17, 2023, as Diffuse Midline Glioma/Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma (DMG/DIPG) Awareness Day in Louisiana

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To recognize May 17, 2023, as Diffuse Midline Glioma/Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma
3 (DMG/DIPG) Awareness Day in Louisiana.

4 WHEREAS, diffuse midline glioma (DMG), also referred to as diffuse intrinsic
5 pontine glioma (DIPG), is an aggressive brain tumor that attacks the brainstem and slowly
6 destroys all vital functions, even as cognitive function remains intact, rendering the affected
7 person a prisoner in his or her own body; it is regarded by the medical community as the
8 deadliest form of childhood cancer; and

9 WHEREAS, diffuse midline glioma typically affects children who are between the
10 ages of five and nine; tragically, while the medical community has been aware of diffuse
11 midline glioma for four decades, they have been unable to develop any treatment, making
12 the disease inoperable, incurable, and fatal; and

13 WHEREAS, diffuse midline glioma accounts for 10-20% of all brain tumors in
14 young children, and individuals diagnosed with the disease face a median overall survival
15 rate of only eight to twelve months; and

16 WHEREAS, Kallie Dickens, daughter of Hayley and Justin Dickens and sister of
17 Kora Dickens, was diagnosed with diffuse midline glioma in June 2021; she endured
18 unimaginable treatment regimens with grace, optimism, and a perpetual smile on her
19 beautiful face; she tragically lost her battle in May 2022, eleven months after being
20 diagnosed; and

1 WHEREAS, Kallie's family carries the bright light of her memory through "Keeping
2 A Light for Kallie", a charitable organization that supports pediatric cancer families both
3 financially and emotionally; and

4 WHEREAS, it most fitting to recognize May 17, 2023, as Diffuse Midline
5 Glioma/Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma (DMG/DIPG) Awareness Day in Louisiana to
6 carry on the light of Kallie and all others who have passed as a result of this terrible disease.

7 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
8 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize May 17, 2023, as Diffuse Midline
9 Glioma/Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma (DMG/DIPG) Awareness Day in Louisiana and
10 does hereby extend sincerest wishes that all Louisianians offer their support in hopes that
11 we may one day find a cure to this and other terrible childhood diseases.

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 97 Original

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