

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 90

BY REPRESENTATIVE BILLINGS

COMMENDATIONS: Commends patients and the medical community in their fight against Adrenoleukodystrophy (ALD)

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend patients and the medical community in their fight against
3 Adrenoleukodystrophy.

4 WHEREAS, Adrenoleukodystrophy (ALD) is a genetic condition that damages the
5 myelin sheath covering nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord; myelin acts as insulation
6 around the nerve fibers, and when this insulating layer is damaged, nerve signals from the
7 brain cannot communicate across the body properly, causing impaired bodily functions or
8 paralysis; and

9 WHEREAS, ALD prevents the body from breaking down very long chain fatty acids,
10 causing these fatty acid chains to build up in the brain, nervous system, and adrenal gland;
11 the accumulation is thought to cause inflammation in the body that damages the myelin
12 sheath; and

13 WHEREAS, ALD is a genetic condition that may be inherited from one or both
14 parents; the condition affects males more severely as it can present itself during childhood
15 or adulthood; women who are carriers of ALD develop a milder form of the condition during
16 adulthood; and

17 WHEREAS, symptoms of ALD often begin between the ages of four and ten, but
18 they can present much later in life; these symptoms include loss of vision, learning
19 disabilities, dysphagia, seizures, deafness, lack of coordination and balance, fatigue,
20 intermittent vomiting, weight loss, lack of appetite, nausea, darkening of the skin,
21 progressive dementia, muscle weakness, low blood glucose, and morning headaches; and

1 WHEREAS, Adrenomyeloneuropathy is an adult-onset form of ALD that progresses
2 slowly over decades; symptoms of the condition may include a stiff gait when walking and
3 bladder and bowel dysfunction; many male patients with this form of ALD often end up
4 wheelchair-bound; moreover, the adrenal glands in people with ALD often fail to produce
5 enough cortisol, causing Addison's disease; and

6 WHEREAS, the Johns Hopkins Comprehensive Adrenal Center is a unique facility
7 with world-renowned specialists in every facet of adrenal care; ALD is currently treated with
8 medications and physical therapy, and if a patient is diagnosed as a child or at an early stage
9 of the condition, a stem cell transplant may be a promising treatment to stop the condition's
10 progression.

11 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
12 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend patients and the medical community in their
13 fight against Adrenoleukodystrophy (ALD) and does hereby extend sincerest wishes that
14 they continue to receive the support needed to emerge victorious in their endeavors.

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 90 Original

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Billings

Commends patients and the medical community in their fight against Adrenoleukodystrophy (ALD).