

2018 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 185

BY REPRESENTATIVE BRASS

SPECIAL DAY/WEEK/MONTH: Recognizes May 2018, as Lupus Awareness Month

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To recognize May 2018, as Lupus Awareness Month at the state capitol.

3 WHEREAS, systematic lupus erythematosus, commonly known as lupus, is a
4 chronic, complex, and often life-threatening disease; and

5 WHEREAS, lupus is difficult to diagnose, hard to live with, and a challenge to treat;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, lupus is a misunderstood, unpredictable, and mysterious autoimmune
8 disease in which the immune system is overactive and unbalanced, thus causing
9 inflammation and tissue damage to virtually every organ system in the body; and

10 WHEREAS, lupus can affect any part of the body, including the skin, lungs, heart,
11 kidneys, and brain; indeed, no organ is spared from the ravages of the disease; and

12 WHEREAS, lupus can cause seizures, strokes, heart attacks, miscarriages, organ
13 failure, and death; and

14 WHEREAS, while lupus strikes mostly women of childbearing age, no one is safe
15 from the disease; and

16 WHEREAS, for unexplained reasons, African Americans, Hispanics, Asians, and
17 Native Americans are two to three times more likely to develop lupus; and

18 WHEREAS, lupus can be particularly difficult to diagnose because its symptoms are
19 similar to those of many other illnesses, and the medical profession's knowledge of the
20 causes and effects of the disease is incomplete; and

1 WHEREAS, more than half of all people with lupus wait four or more years and visit
2 three or more doctors before receiving a correct diagnosis of their condition; and

3 WHEREAS there has been only one drug approved by the U.S. Food and Drug
4 Administration specifically for the treatment of lupus, and current treatments for the disease
5 can have damaging side effects; and

6 WHEREAS, for those living with lupus, early diagnosis, proper treatment protocols,
7 and heightened awareness are critical for survival and the maintenance of a high quality of
8 life; and

9 WHEREAS, each year, the Lupus Foundation of America designates May as
10 National Lupus Awareness Month to show support for the estimated 1.5 million Americans
11 who have the disease.

12 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
13 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby designate May 2018, as Lupus Awareness Month at
14 the state capitol and hereby encourages citizens of Louisiana to join with the Lupus
15 Foundation of America to support programs of research, education, and community service
16 in support of those who suffer with lupus.

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 185 Original

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Brass

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