

2019 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 271

BY REPRESENTATIVE STEVE CARTER

SPECIAL DAY/WEEK/MONTH: Designates May 2019 as Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Month in Louisiana

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To designate the month of May 2019 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

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

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

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

20 WHEREAS, respiratory damage is caused by mucus build-up in the lungs and  
21 bacterial infections which eventually lead to permanent lung damage, including the

1 formation of scar tissue or fibrosis which impedes the ability of the lungs to inflate and  
2 deflate; and

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

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

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

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

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

15 WHEREAS, the life expectancy of those with CF has been steadily increasing since  
16 the 1950s and is currently near forty years; and

17 WHEREAS, a critical component of treating patients with CF is access to innovative  
18 treatments which can affect both longevity and quality of life; and

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

21 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the  
22 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby designate the month of May 2019 as Cystic Fibrosis  
23 Awareness Month in Louisiana.

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
25 executive director of the Louisiana Chapter-Baton Rouge 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)]

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HR 271 Original

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