

Substitute for House Resolution No. 344.

A resolution to declare May 17, 2018, as Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma Day in the state of Michigan.

Whereas, Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma (DIPG) affects between 200 and 400 children in the U.S. each year. DIPG is the second most common malignant brain tumor found in children. DIPG is a tumor located in the middle of the brainstem where the cerebrum connects to the spinal cord. It grows among and around healthy nerves in the area, making surgical removal impossible at this time. DIPG interferes with all bodily functions, depriving a child of the ability to move, to communicate, and even to eat and drink; and

Whereas, Brain tumors are the leading cause of cancer-related deaths in children. DIPG is the leading cause of childhood death due to brain tumors. The median survival rate is only 9 months and the five-year survival rate is less than 1%; and

Whereas, Given the age at diagnosis and the average life expectancy, the number of life years lost annually because of DIPG is approximately 25,000 years (calculated as the number of children diagnosed multiplied by average male and female life expectancy from that median age, $300 \times 80 = 25,000$ years of life lost annually); and

Whereas, Research is still seeking to fully understand the disease. Prognosis has not improved for children with DIPG in over 35 years; and

Whereas, Research and awareness are both growing in recent years thanks to the advocacy of groups like Team Buddy Boy, Team Julian, and ChadTough, whose efforts have led to linking some parts of DIPG to other forms of cancer possibly broadening treatment options; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of this legislative body declare May 17, 2018, as Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma Day in the state of Michigan.