

Substitute for House Resolution No. 405.

A resolution to declare October 2018 as Eczema Awareness Month in the state of Michigan.

Whereas, Eczema, is a general term for a set of inflammatory skin conditions affecting over 10% of U.S. citizens, and the most common form of eczema is atopic dermatitis. These inflammations are caused by a mix of genetic and external factors like allergies and irritation. Although most experience it as a mild skin condition, about half experience more serious symptoms impacting their everyday lives to an even greater degree; and

Whereas, Eczema is prevalent at every age. However, 13% of all U.S. children are diagnosed with atopic dermatitis. Children ages 0-17, as a result of living with eczema, may also experience anxiety about flare-ups or struggle with self-esteem. Other side effects include co-occurring mental health disorders such as depression and hypertension, and increased rates of allergies, asthma, ADHD, and bacterial and viral infections. With the addition of the co-occurring conditions, eczema can come at an immense cost to those affected and their families; and

Whereas, It is important to bring to light the high costs of living with eczema. Individuals living with eczema can pay upwards of \$500 out of pocket for medical treatment and it is an even higher cost for individuals without health care coverage; and

Whereas, While there is no cure for eczema, we extend our appreciation for organizations like the National Eczema Association, American Academy of Dermatology, International Eczema Council, and National Eczema Society for their dedication to the cause and for providing an immeasurable amount of resources, research, and advocacy for individuals living with eczema; and

Whereas, Raising awareness of eczema as a public health issue would educate the public on the ways eczema affects the lives of those with the disease and their families, and how they can have access to affordable, effective eczema treatments; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of this legislative body declare October 2018 as Eczema Awareness Month in the state of Michigan.