

Substitute for House Resolution No. 437.

A resolution to declare November 29, 2018, as Epilepsy Awareness Day in the state of Michigan.

Whereas, The month of November is recognized nationally as Epilepsy Awareness Month; and

Whereas, Epilepsy is a neurological disorder where the brain's normal electrical pattern is disrupted by sudden and synchronized bursts of electrical energy that may affect consciousness, movement, or sensation while creating long-term effects on the lifestyle of individuals with epilepsy; and

Whereas, Epilepsy is the fourth most common neurological disorder in the United States after migraine, stroke, and Alzheimer's diseases. One in 26 people will develop epilepsy and 150,000 new cases of epilepsy are diagnosed each year. Epilepsy affects between 2.2 and 3 million people in the United States and 65 million people worldwide. In fact, the number of Americans who have epilepsy is greater than the number who have multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's disease, and cerebral palsy combined; and

Whereas, Epilepsy is a complex neurological disorder that results in almost one-third of epilepsy patients having uncontrolled seizures due to a lack of clinically available treatment that works for them; and

Whereas, The complexity of this disorder requires further research to find a cure, as well as to provide additional advanced treatments for epilepsy patients; and

Whereas, Epilepsy Awareness Month is recognized each November to increase awareness of the disorder, highlight the need for further research, and demonstrate support for the millions of people living with epilepsy; and

Whereas, The state of Michigan joins the Epilepsy Foundation and other interested agencies and organizations in urging patients, supporters, health care providers, and the general public to share information about this disease and available treatments; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of this legislative body declare November 29, 2018, as Epilepsy Awareness Day in the state of Michigan. We urge all citizens to observe this momentous occasion.