

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 36

Reps. Clemente, Sowerby, Brixie, Sneller, Ellison, Garza, Brenda Carter, Camilleri, Kennedy, Pagan, Coleman, Manoogian, Love, Berman, Cherry, Hope, Jones, Lasinski, Pohutsky, Shannon, Stone, Tate, Wittenberg and Witwer offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to declare March 7, 2019, as Rare Disease
2 Awareness Day in the state of Michigan.

3 Whereas, According to the National Institutes of Health (NIH),
4 there are nearly 7,000 diseases and conditions considered rare
5 (each affecting fewer than 200,000 Americans) in the United States;
6 and

7 Whereas, While each of these diseases may affect small numbers
8 of people, rare diseases as a group affect almost 30 million
9 Americans; and



1 Whereas, Many rare diseases are serious and depilating
2 conditions that have a significant impact on the lives of those
3 affected. We believe this resolution can raise awareness and save
4 lives; and

5 Whereas, While the public is familiar with some rare diseases
6 such as Lou Gehrig's disease and sympathetic to those affected,
7 many patients and families affected by less widely known rare
8 disorders bear a large share of the burden of funding research and
9 raising awareness to support the search for treatments; and

10 Whereas, Thousands of residents in Michigan are among those
11 affected by rare diseases as nearly one in ten Americans has a rare
12 disease; and

13 Whereas, The National Organization for Rare Disorders (NORD)
14 is organizing a nationwide observance of Rare Disease Awareness Day
15 on March 7, 2019; now, therefore, be it

16 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of
17 this legislative body declare March 7, 2019, as Rare Disease
18 Awareness Day in the state of Michigan.