

# HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 97

Reps. Hope, Sowerby, Love, Gay-Dagnogo, Allor, Cherry, Chirkun, Crawford, Garza, Haadsma, Jones, Kuppa, Lasinski, Sneller, Warren and Witwer offered the following resolution:

1       A resolution to declare May 13-19, 2019, as Celiac Disease  
2 Awareness Week in the state of Michigan.

3       Whereas, Celiac Disease Awareness Week begins May 13, 2019,  
4 and is designed to raise public awareness of this serious and  
5 incurable condition; and

6       Whereas, The disease causes inflammation in the small  
7 intestine and it interferes with the proper absorption of  
8 nutrients; and

9       Whereas, If left untreated, celiac disease permanently damages  
10 the small intestine and can also lead to malnutrition,  
11 osteoporosis, infertility, miscarriage, seizures, and neuropathy;



1 and

2 Whereas, According to the Celiac Disease Foundation, persons  
3 with celiac disease are twice as likely to have coronary artery  
4 disease and are four times as likely to develop cancer,  
5 specifically intestinal lymphoma or cancer of the small intestine;  
6 and

7 Whereas, Celiac disease often co-occurs with other serious  
8 autoimmune conditions, including Type I diabetes, thyroid disease,  
9 microscopic colitis, Addison's disease, and rheumatoid arthritis;  
10 and

11 Whereas, The only way to manage celiac disease is to  
12 completely avoid gluten, which is found not only in many foods  
13 containing wheat or other grains, but also in medications and  
14 personal care products. For this reason, accidental exposure to  
15 gluten is common in celiac patients; and

16 Whereas, Maintaining a strict gluten-free diet can cause some  
17 persons with celiac disease to become socially isolated as food is  
18 often the centerpiece of parties, meetings, and other social  
19 events. Those diagnosed with celiac disease should consult with a  
20 dietitian and may find benefit in social support groups; and

21 Whereas, As a result of the week of May 13, 2019, being  
22 recognized as Celiac Disease Awareness Week throughout Michigan,  
23 more citizens will have conversations about their current state of  
24 health, more healthcare providers will learn more about celiac  
25 disease, and the public will understand why it is important for  
26 persons with celiac disease to remain completely gluten free; now,  
27 therefore, be it

28 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of  
29 this legislative body declare May 13-19, 2019, as Celiac Disease

- 1 Awareness Week in the state of Michigan. We call this observance to
- 2 the attention of all our citizens.