

## SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 63

Senators Geiss, Wojno, Bayer, Polehanki, Santana, Ananich and Hollier, Alexander, Brinks, Bullock, Johnson, Lucido, McCann, McMorro and VanderWall offered the following resolution:

1       A resolution to recognize June 2019 as Lipedema Awareness  
2   Month.

3       Whereas, Lipedema is a chronic and painful lymphatic disease  
4   that occurs almost exclusively in women and is thought to affect  
5   between 10 to 17 million people in America; and

6       Whereas, Lipedema is characterized by bilateral, excess  
7   symmetrical fatty tissue that bruises easily, mainly in the hip  
8   region, upper and lower leg areas, or upper arms, combined with a  
9   tendency for leg swelling that worsens when standing; and

10       Whereas, The etiology of lipedema and other types of fatty

1 tissue enlargement is still unknown, although a genetic cause is  
2 suspected; and

3       Whereas, Individuals who suffer from this disease are further  
4 impacted by the absence of diagnostic tools, the lack of public and  
5 medical awareness of lipedema, and the stigma associated with  
6 weight gain; and

7       Whereas, Patients suffering from lipedema cannot simply shed  
8 the additional weight and size through typical or extreme weight  
9 loss measures; and

10       Whereas, The disease is progressive through four stages, which  
11 means that the condition gradually worsens and is degenerative,  
12 painful, disfiguring, and can lead to permanent disability; and

13       Whereas, Certain types of liposuction are the only treatments  
14 that can reverse the pain, disfigurement, and immobility caused by  
15 lipedema; and

16       Whereas, Most lipedema patients cannot access this surgery due  
17 to its classification as a cosmetic procedure and the costs  
18 associated with paying out-of-pocket, which can be tens of  
19 thousands of dollars, and many require numerous surgeries to treat  
20 their condition; now, therefore, be it

21       Resolved by the Senate, That the members of this legislative  
22 body recognize June 2019 as Lipedema Awareness Month; and be it  
23 further

24       Resolved, That we urge the medical community to expand both  
25 education and research of this painful disease and to spread  
26 awareness of lipedema while advocating for Michiganders who may be  
27 suffering in silence.