

2019 -- H 6029

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2019

H O U S E R E S O L U T I O N

RECOGNIZING MAY 17, 2019, AS "DIPG AWARENESS DAY" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Representatives Caldwell, McNamara, Lyle, Jackson, and Millea

Date Introduced: April 25, 2019

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma (DIPG) is the leading cause of childhood
2 death due to brain tumors and impacts approximately 150 to 300 children each year in the United
3 States; and

4 WHEREAS, DIPG typically strikes children between the ages of four and eleven years
5 old; and

6 WHEREAS, DIPG is the deadliest childhood brain tumor, with a median survival rate
7 from the time of diagnosis of only 9 months, and a near zero percent survival rate overall; and

8 WHEREAS, Because of its location in the brainstem where all motor activity is
9 controlled, DIPG is inoperable. The disease progresses by taking over a child's motor functions
10 one-by-one, typically starting with vision and balance problems, before moving to partial
11 paralysis, followed by the inability to chew, speak, swallow, move and eventually breathe – all of
12 this while the child remains mentally intact; and

13 WHEREAS, For more than 40 years, treatment for DIPG remained the same and the
14 prognosis for children diagnosed with this deadly disease did not improve. But in the past few
15 years, due to better medical technology and increased access to tumor tissue, researchers have
16 made real advances in their understanding of this disease; and

17 WHEREAS, There is finally hope for progress in finding a cure - by raising awareness,
18 supporting expanded research, developing effective treatments, and providing comprehensive
19 care for children with DIPG and their families; now, therefore be it

1 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and
2 Providence Plantations hereby recognizes May 17, 2019, as "DIPG Awareness Day" and
3 encourages all Rhode Islanders to become more informed about diffuse intrinsic pontine glioma
4 (DIPG) pediatric brain cancer, and moreover urges the National Cancer Institute and other
5 research funders to elevate their consideration in designating sufficient research funding for
6 pediatric cancers; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
8 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to Wendy and Dean Fachon, and the Rhode Island
9 Congressional Delegation.

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