

**2019 -- H 6058**

LC002404

**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**

COMMEMORATING "WORLD LUPUS DAY" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND ON  
MAY 10, 2019

Introduced By: Representatives Diaz, Serpa, Caldwell, Ackerman, and Fellela

Date Introduced: May 02, 2019

Referred To: House read and passed

1           WHEREAS, World Lupus Day began 11 years ago when an international steering  
2 committee representing Lupus organizations from 13 different nations met in Eaton, United  
3 Kingdom, and issued a proclamation and organized the first observance of World Lupus Day. The  
4 proclamation was a demand for action asking for governments across the globe to increase their  
5 funding in support of Lupus research, public awareness, and patient services; and

6           WHEREAS, Lupus is a devastating and debilitating chronic disease that afflicts more  
7 than 5 million people worldwide, men and women, all races, ages, and nationalities. Lupus is  
8 incurable and can cause life-threatening damage to any part of the body including all organs,  
9 joints, and skin; and

10           WHEREAS, Lupus damages the immune system, which is the part of the human body  
11 that fights off viruses, bacteria, and germs. Under normal circumstances, our immune system  
12 produces proteins called antibodies that protect the body from "invaders". Becoming autoimmune  
13 due to Lupus means that one's immune system cannot tell the difference between "foreign  
14 invaders" like the flu, and your body's healthy tissues, thereby creating autoantibodies that attack  
15 and destroy healthy tissue, causing inflammation, intense pain, and damage to various parts of the  
16 body; and

17           WHEREAS, Many physicians worldwide are unaware of the symptoms and effects of  
18 Lupus, causing people with Lupus to suffer many years before they obtain a correct diagnosis and  
19 medical treatment; and

1           WHEREAS, Medical research efforts into Lupus and the discovery and development of  
2 safer, more effective treatments for Lupus patients are under-funded in comparison with diseases  
3 of similar magnitude and severity; and

4           WHEREAS, People with Lupus will face a lifetime of living with the unpredictable and  
5 life-changing health effects of this disease; and

6           WHEREAS, There is a deep, unmet need worldwide to educate and support individuals  
7 and families affected by Lupus; and

8           WHEREAS, There is an urgent need to increase awareness in communities worldwide of  
9 the devastating impact of Lupus; and

10          WHEREAS, World Lupus Day is a day during which Lupus organizations around the  
11 globe call for increases in public and private sector funding for medical research on Lupus,  
12 targeted education programs for health professionals, patients and the public, and worldwide  
13 recognition of Lupus as a significant health issue; now, therefore be it

14          RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and  
15 Providence Plantations hereby commemorates "World Lupus Day" in the State of Rhode Island  
16 on May 10, 2019; and be it further

17          RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
18 transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Aida Crosson, Rhode Island Ambassador,  
19 Lupus Foundation of New England.

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