

1 State of Arkansas
2 92nd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2019

SCR 4

4
5 By: Senator Irvin
6 By: Representative M. Gray

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8 **SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

9 TO DESIGNATE MAY 2019 AS CYSTIC FIBROSIS AWARENESS
10 MONTH.

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13 **Subtitle**

14 TO DESIGNATE MAY 2019 AS CYSTIC FIBROSIS
15 AWARENESS MONTH.

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18 WHEREAS, cystic fibrosis, commonly referred to as "CF", is a genetic
19 disease affecting approximately 30,000 children and adults in the United
20 States, and nearly 70,000 children and adults worldwide, more than 250 of
21 whom live in Arkansas; and

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23 WHEREAS, individuals with CF have a defective gene that causes the body
24 to produce an abnormally thick, sticky mucus that clogs the lungs, and these
25 secretions produce life-threatening lung infections and obstruct the
26 pancreas, preventing digestive enzymes from reaching the intestines to help
27 break down and absorb food; and

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29 WHEREAS, more than 10,000,000 Americans are symptomless carriers of the
30 CF gene, and CF occurs in approximately 1 out of every 3,500 live births in
31 the United States; and

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33 WHEREAS, in the United States, the median age of survival for a person
34 with CF is 41 years; the number of adults with CF has steadily grown; and
35 approximately 1,000 new cases of CF are diagnosed each year; and



1 WHEREAS, nearly 50% of the CF population is 18 years of age and older,
2 and people with CF have a variety of symptoms attributed to the more than
3 1,800 mutations of the CF gene; and
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5 WHEREAS, infant blood screening to detect genetic defects is the most
6 reliable and least costly method to identify persons likely to have CF; and
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8 WHEREAS, early diagnosis of CF permits early treatment and enhances
9 quality of life and longevity; and the treatment of CF depends on the stage
10 of the disease and the organs involved; and
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12 WHEREAS, clearing mucus from the lungs is an important part of the
13 daily CF treatment regimen, along with treatments including inhaled
14 antibiotics and pancreatic enzymes, among others; and
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16 WHEREAS, there are 2 world-class treatment centers in Arkansas that
17 specialize in the diagnosis of CF and the care of persons with CF; and
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19 WHEREAS, a critical component of treating patients with CF is access to
20 innovative treatments, which can play a crucial role in the lives of patients
21 with CF; and
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23 WHEREAS, improving the length and quality of life for people with CF
24 starts with awareness,
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26 NOW THEREFORE,

27 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE
28 STATE OF ARKANSAS, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN:
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30 THAT the Senate recognizes the importance of awareness of cystic
31 fibrosis and designates the month of May 2019 as Cystic Fibrosis Awareness
32 Month.
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34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption of this resolution, an appropriate
35 copy shall be provided to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation by the Secretary of
36 the Senate.