

1 State of Arkansas  
2 87th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2009

SR 8

4  
5 By: Senator Broadway

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8 **SENATE RESOLUTION**

9 SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF MULTIPLE  
10 SCLEROSIS AWARENESS WEEK.

11  
12 **Subtitle**

13 SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF  
14 MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS AWARENESS WEEK.

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17 WHEREAS, multiple sclerosis can impact men and women of all ages,  
18 races, and ethnicities;

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20 WHEREAS, more than 400,000 Americans live with multiple sclerosis;

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22 WHEREAS, approximately 2,500,000 people worldwide have been diagnosed  
23 with multiple sclerosis;

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25 WHEREAS, every hour of every day, someone is newly diagnosed with  
26 multiple sclerosis;

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28 WHEREAS, it is estimated that between 8,000 and 10,000 children and  
29 adolescents are living with multiple sclerosis;

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31 WHEREAS, the exact cause of multiple sclerosis is still unknown;

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33 WHEREAS, the symptoms of multiple sclerosis are unpredictable and vary  
34 from person to person;

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36 WHEREAS, there is no diagnostic laboratory test available for multiple



1 sclerosis;

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3 WHEREAS, multiple sclerosis is not genetic, contagious, or directly  
4 inherited, but studies show there are genetic factors that indicate certain  
5 individuals are susceptible to the disease;

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7 WHEREAS, multiple sclerosis symptoms occur when an immune system  
8 attack affects the myelin in nerve fibers of the central nervous system,  
9 damaging or destroying it and replacing it with scar tissue, thereby  
10 interfering with or preventing the transmission of nerve signals;

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12 WHEREAS, in rare cases multiple sclerosis is so progressive it is  
13 fatal;

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15 WHEREAS, there is no known cure for multiple sclerosis;

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17 WHEREAS, the Multiple Sclerosis Coalition, an affiliation of multiple  
18 sclerosis organizations dedicated to the enhancement of the quality of life  
19 for all those affected by multiple sclerosis, recognizes, and celebrates  
20 Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week;

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22 WHEREAS, the Multiple Sclerosis Coalition's mission is to increase  
23 opportunities for cooperation and provide greater opportunity to leverage the  
24 effective use of resources for the benefit of the multiple sclerosis  
25 community;

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27 WHEREAS, the Multiple Sclerosis Coalition recognizes and celebrates  
28 Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week during one (1) week in March every calendar  
29 year;

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31 WHEREAS, the goals of Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week are to invite  
32 people to join the movement to end multiple sclerosis, encourage everyone to  
33 do something to demonstrate their commitment to moving toward a world free of  
34 multiple sclerosis, and to acknowledge those who have dedicated their time  
35 and talent to help promote multiple sclerosis research and programs; and

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1           WHEREAS, this year Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week is recognized  
2 during the week of March 2, 2009, through March 8, 2009,

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4 NOW THEREFORE,

5 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE EIGHTY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE  
6 STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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8           THAT the Senate:

9                   (1) Supports the goals and ideals of Multiple Sclerosis  
10 Awareness Week;

11                   (2) Encourages the Governor to issue a proclamation in support  
12 of the goals and ideals of Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week;

13                   (3) Encourages states, territories, possessions of the United  
14 States, and localities to support the goals and ideals of Multiple Sclerosis  
15 Awareness Week by issuing proclamations designating Multiple Sclerosis  
16 Awareness Week;

17                   (4) Encourages media organizations to participate in Multiple  
18 Sclerosis Awareness Week and help educate the public about multiple  
19 sclerosis;

20                   (5) Commends the efforts of the states, territories, and  
21 possessions of the United States who support the goals and ideals of Multiple  
22 Sclerosis Awareness Week;

23                   (6) Recognizes and reaffirms our nation's commitment to  
24 combating multiple sclerosis by promoting awareness about its causes and  
25 risks and by promoting new education programs, supporting research, and  
26 expanding access to medical treatment;

27                   (7) Recognizes all people in the United States living with  
28 multiple sclerosis, and expresses gratitude to their family members and  
29 friends who are a source of love and encouragement to them;

30                   (8) Salutes the health care professionals and medical  
31 researchers who provide assistance to those afflicted with multiple  
32 sclerosis; and

33                   (9) Salutes the continued work of health care professionals and  
34 medical researchers to find cures and improve the treatment of multiple  
35 sclerosis.  
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