

1 State of Arkansas
2 94th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2023

HR 1019

4
5 By: Representative Ennett

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7 **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

8 TO DESIGNATE FEBRUARY 13, 2023, AS INTERNATIONAL
9 EPILEPSY DAY.

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12 **Subtitle**

13 TO DESIGNATE FEBRUARY 13, 2023, AS
14 INTERNATIONAL EPILEPSY DAY.

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16 WHEREAS, International Epilepsy Day is a special awareness day that
17 takes place on the second Monday in February to shine a light on the
18 challenges faced by people living with epilepsy; and

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20 WHEREAS, epilepsy, also known as seizure disorder, is the fourth most
21 common neurological disorder and one of the oldest recognized medical
22 conditions; and

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24 WHEREAS, epilepsy causes electrical activity in the brain to stop for a
25 short time, which leads to recurrent seizures; and

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27 WHEREAS, epilepsy ranks among the top five (5) causes of global
28 neurological disability and an estimated one hundred twenty-five thousand
29 (125,000) deaths per year globally are related to the condition; and

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31 WHEREAS, untreated epilepsy is a life-threatening disorder and the
32 death rate for people with epilepsy is three (3) times that of the general
33 population; and

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35 WHEREAS, people with epilepsy are disproportionately affected by other
36 conditions, such as depression, anxiety, dementia, migraine, heart disease,



1 peptic ulcers, and arthritis; and

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3 WHEREAS, even though sixty-five million (65,000,000) people in the
4 world live with epilepsy, there is still some stigma around the disorder and
5 International Epilepsy Day exists to educate the general public about
6 epilepsy and to teach people how to provide better care for people living
7 with the disorder; and

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9 WHEREAS, this year's theme for International Epilepsy Day, "Step Up
10 Against Stigma", provides a platform for people with epilepsy, and those who
11 care for them, to dispel myths with facts; and

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13 WHEREAS, in many countries, lack of awareness about epilepsy as a
14 treatable brain condition remains a central public health challenge and
15 educating people about epilepsy and dispelling myths can reduce stigma and
16 discrimination at school, at work, in the clinic, across the community, and
17 at home; and

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19 WHEREAS, International Epilepsy Day is an annual event organized by the
20 International Bureau for Epilepsy (IBE) and the International League Against
21 Epilepsy (ILAE) to raise awareness about epilepsy and its impact on
22 individuals, families, and communities around the world,

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24 NOW THEREFORE,

25 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL
26 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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28 THAT the House of Representatives recognize February 13, 2023, as
29 International Epilepsy Day at the Arkansas State Capitol.

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