

HR 9003

2008

1 House Resolution

2 A resolution recognizing September 2008 as "Hydrocephalus
3 Awareness Month" in Florida.

4
5 WHEREAS, hydrocephalus is a serious neurological condition,
6 characterized by the abnormal buildup of cerebrospinal fluids in
7 the ventricles of the brain, and

8 WHEREAS, there is no known cure for hydrocephalus, which
9 affects an estimated one million Americans, and

10 WHEREAS, approximately two in every 1,000 babies are born
11 with hydrocephalus, and

12 WHEREAS, over 375,000 older Americans have hydrocephalus,
13 which often goes undetected or is misdiagnosed as dementia,
14 Alzheimer's disease, or Parkinson's disease, and

15 WHEREAS, with appropriate diagnosis and treatment, people
16 with hydrocephalus are able to live full and productive lives,
17 and

18 WHEREAS, the standard treatment for hydrocephalus was
19 developed in 1952 and carries multiple risks, including shunt
20 failure, infection, and over drainage, and

21 WHEREAS, there are fewer than 10 centers in the United
22 States specializing in the treatment of adults with normal
23 pressure hydrocephalus, and

24 WHEREAS, a September 2005 conference sponsored by seven
25 institutes of the National Institutes of Health, entitled
26 "Hydrocephalus: Myths, New Facts, Clear Directions," resulted in
27 efforts to initiate new, collaborative research and treatment
28 efforts, and

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29 WHEREAS, the Hydrocephalus Association is one of the
30 nation's oldest and largest patient and research advocacy and
31 support networks for individuals suffering from hydrocephalus,
32 and

33 WHEREAS, further research into the epidemiology,
34 pathophysiology, disease burden, and improved treatment of
35 hydrocephalus can be conducted and supported, and

36 WHEREAS, public awareness and professional education
37 regarding hydrocephalus can increase through partnerships
38 between the State of Florida and patient-advocacy organizations,
39 such as the Hydrocephalus Association, NOW, THEREFORE,

40

41 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
42 Florida:

43

44 That September 2008 is recognized as "Hydrocephalus
45 Awareness Month" in Florida so that Floridians can become more
46 familiar with hydrocephalus and the individuals dedicated to
47 finding the cure for, and improving the treatment of,
48 hydrocephalus.