

HR 9069

2009

1 House Resolution

2 A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of Multiple
3 Sclerosis Awareness Week.

4
5 WHEREAS, multiple sclerosis can impact people of all ages,
6 races, and ethnicities, and

7 WHEREAS, more than 400,000 Americans live with multiple
8 sclerosis, and

9 WHEREAS, approximately 2,500,000 people worldwide have been
10 diagnosed with multiple sclerosis, and

11 WHEREAS, every hour of every day, someone is diagnosed with
12 multiple sclerosis, and

13 WHEREAS, it is estimated that between 8,000 and 10,000
14 children and adolescents are living with multiple sclerosis, and

15 WHEREAS, the exact cause of multiple sclerosis is still
16 unknown, and

17 WHEREAS, the symptoms of multiple sclerosis are
18 unpredictable and vary from person to person, and

19 WHEREAS, there is no single diagnostic laboratory test
20 available for multiple sclerosis, and

21 WHEREAS, multiple sclerosis is not contagious or directly
22 inherited, but studies show there are genetic factors that
23 indicate certain individuals are susceptible to the disease, and

24 WHEREAS, multiple sclerosis symptoms occur when an immune
25 system attack affects the myelin in nerve fibers of the central
26 nervous system, damaging or destroying the myelin and replacing
27 it with scar tissue, thereby interfering with or preventing the
28 transmission of nerve signals, and

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29 WHEREAS, in rare cases multiple sclerosis is so progressive
 30 it is fatal, and

31 WHEREAS, there is no known cure for multiple sclerosis, and

32 WHEREAS, the National Multiple Sclerosis Society and other
 33 organizations dedicated to the enhancement of the quality of
 34 life for all those affected by multiple sclerosis recognize and
 35 celebrate Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week during one week in
 36 March every calendar year, and

37 WHEREAS, the National Multiple Sclerosis Society is a
 38 collective of passionate individuals who want to do something
 39 now about multiple sclerosis, and

40 WHEREAS, this year National Multiple Sclerosis Awareness
 41 Week is recognized during the week of March 2-8, 2009, NOW,
 42 THEREFORE,

43
 44 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
 45 Florida:

46
 47 That the House of Representatives of the State of Florida:

48 (1) Supports the goals and ideals of Multiple Sclerosis
 49 Awareness Week.

50 (2) Encourages media organizations to participate in
 51 Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week and help educate the public
 52 about multiple sclerosis.

53 (3) Commends the goals and ideals of Multiple Sclerosis
 54 Awareness Week.

55 (4) Commends the National Multiple Sclerosis Society's
 56 commitment to combating multiple sclerosis by promoting

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57 | awareness about its causes and risks and by promoting new
58 | education programs, supporting research, and expanding access to
59 | medical treatment.

60 | (5) Recognizes all people in Florida living with multiple
61 | sclerosis, expresses gratitude to their family members and
62 | friends who are a source of love and encouragement to them, and
63 | salutes the health care professionals and medical researchers
64 | who provide assistance to those so afflicted and continue to
65 | work to find cures and improve treatments.