

HR 9079

2014

House Resolution

A resolution designating May 2014 as "Lupus Awareness Month" in Florida.

WHEREAS, each year, the Lupus Foundation of America designates May as national Lupus Awareness Month to show support for the estimated 1.5 million Americans who have lupus, and

WHEREAS, lupus is a chronic autoimmune disease in which the immune system is imbalanced causing inflammation and tissue damage to nearly every organ system in the body, and

WHEREAS, lupus can affect any part of the body, including the skin, joints, lungs, heart, kidneys, and brain, causing seizures, strokes, heart attacks, miscarriages, and organ failure, and

WHEREAS, while lupus most commonly affects women of childbearing age, it can affect people of any age or sex, and

WHEREAS, African-American, Hispanic, Asian-American, and Native-American women are all more likely than Caucasian women to develop lupus, and African-American women are two to three times more likely than Caucasian women to develop lupus, and

WHEREAS, lupus can be particularly difficult to diagnose because its symptoms are similar to those of many other diseases, creating challenges in understanding the causes and effects of lupus, and

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25 WHEREAS, current treatments for lupus can have damaging
26 side effects, but there has been only one new drug approved by
27 the United States Food and Drug Administration specifically for
28 the disease in the past 52 years, NOW, THEREFORE,

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30 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
31 Florida:

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33 That May 2014 is designated as "Lupus Awareness Month" in
34 Florida.