

HR 9091

2014

1 House Resolution

2 A resolution designating April 9, 2014, as
3 "Immunization and Bacterial Meningitis Awareness Day"
4 in the State of Florida.

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6 WHEREAS, bacterial meningitis is a deadly, debilitating
7 disease that can affect anyone, but is more common among
8 infants, children, teenagers, young adults, and persons with
9 compromised immune systems, and

10 WHEREAS, meningococcal disease is the most common cause,
11 and pneumococcal and Hib meningitis are two forms, of bacterial
12 meningitis, an infection of the meninges, the thin lining that
13 surrounds the brain and spinal cord, and

14 WHEREAS, bacterial meningitis can strike an otherwise
15 healthy person, suddenly and without warning, and can kill or
16 totally debilitate a healthy person within hours, and

17 WHEREAS, one in 10 persons who contract bacterial
18 meningitis dies, and of those who survive, one in five suffers
19 from long-term complications, including loss of limbs and
20 vision, possible hearing loss, learning and mental disabilities,
21 paralysis, and severe organ damage and seizures, and

22 WHEREAS, eradication of all vaccine-preventable diseases,
23 especially bacterial meningitis, is an achievable public health
24 objective, and the vaccination of infants, children, teenagers,
25 and adults is an important step in prevention, and

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26 WHEREAS, the designation of April 9, 2014, as "Immunization
27 and Bacterial Meningitis Awareness Day" is an exceptional way to
28 honor the work of the Florida Department of Health, Meningitis
29 Angels across the state and around the nation, the Pinellas
30 Immunization Team for Community Health (PITCH), and the
31 producers and crew of the film "Invisible Threat," which have
32 all contributed to and been instrumental in raising public
33 awareness about bacterial meningitis and the importance of
34 vaccinations while urging citizens to support the search for a
35 cure and assist individuals and families who deal with bacterial
36 meningitis daily, NOW, THEREFORE,

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38 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
39 Florida:

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41 That April 9, 2014, is designated as "Immunization and
42 Bacterial Meningitis Awareness Day" in the State of Florida to
43 honor those who have died or continue to live with the effects
44 of bacterial meningitis and other vaccine-preventable diseases
45 and to encourage all Floridians to work together to educate the
46 public about and eradicate bacterial meningitis and other
47 vaccine-preventable diseases.