

HR 9007

2015

House Resolution

A resolution recognizing March 2015 as "Lymphedema Awareness Month" in the State of Florida.

WHEREAS, lymphedema is an accumulation of lymphatic fluid which causes swelling in the arms, legs, or other areas of the body, affects both men and women, and can be inherited, and

WHEREAS, infants can be born with lymphedema due to congenital developmental abnormalities, and

WHEREAS, the swelling caused by lymphedema can lead to severe infection, loss of the use of limbs, and amputation, and patients who suffer from lymphedema must endure physical discomfort and disfigurement and the psychological distress caused by these complications, and

WHEREAS, compression is a critical component of lymphedema treatment without which patients are unable to manage their condition and are subject to disease progression, complications, comorbidities, and disabilities, and

WHEREAS, cancer patients, including those who have sarcoma, melanoma, and breast, prostate, gynecological, head, neck, and lung cancers, are one of the largest groups suffering from lymphedema, and

WHEREAS, recent studies have indicated that up to 40 percent of breast cancer patients may develop lymphedema after surgery and radiation, with the risk of onset continuing for many years after initial treatment, and

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27 WHEREAS, lymphedema has no cure, can occur any time after
28 surgery, infection, or trauma, and has severe financial,
29 physical, and psychological impacts on patients, NOW, THEREFORE,
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31 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
32 Florida:
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34 That March 2015 is recognized as "Lymphedema Awareness
35 Month" in the State of Florida to honor and support the
36 courageous patients who are living with and coping with this
37 debilitating condition.