

HR 9053

2016

House Resolution

A resolution recognizing June 2016 as "Scleroderma Awareness Month" in Florida.

WHEREAS, scleroderma, also known as systemic sclerosis, is a chronic systemic autoimmune disease characterized by hardening of the skin, increased synthesis of collagen, damage to small blood vessels, and production of altered connective tissue, sometimes also affecting internal organs, and

WHEREAS, the major causes of death in persons with scleroderma are pulmonary hypertension, pulmonary fibrosis, and scleroderma renal crisis, and

WHEREAS, an estimated 300,000 people in United States have scleroderma and the effects of scleroderma range from very mild to life threatening, and

WHEREAS, while there is no proven cure for scleroderma, treatments are available that can prevent, minimize, or alleviate its effects and may prolong the lives of individuals with less severe cases of the disease, and

WHEREAS, collaborative medical research is an important component in the development of improved therapies and an eventual cure for scleroderma, and

WHEREAS, the increased awareness of the nature and scope of scleroderma in the state will encourage support for families and individuals suffering as a consequence of this disease, NOW,
THEREFORE,

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28 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
29 Florida:

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31 That June 2016 is recognized as "Scleroderma Awareness
32 Month" in Florida.