



HR0706

LRB103 40128 LAW 71800 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of Illinois House of Representatives wish to raise awareness surrounding the rare disease of spinal muscular atrophy; and

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WHEREAS, Spinal muscular atrophy is a degenerative, genetic neurological condition that affects and prevents motor-control neurons from sending signals from the central nervous system to the body's muscles, causing the loss of muscle control and ultimately muscle wasting; and

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WHEREAS, Spinal muscular atrophy is a rare genetic neuromuscular disease; and

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WHEREAS, In the United States, an estimated one in 11,000 babies are born with spinal muscular atrophy; and

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WHEREAS, There are four types of spinal muscular atrophy, the most severe of which may require a ventilator and feeding tubes; and

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WHEREAS, Spinal muscular atrophy affects everyone differently, and symptoms can vary greatly according to the age of onset and the severity of the disease; and

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1 WHEREAS, Those who suffer from spinal muscular atrophy
2 have normally developed brains and are bright, sensitive, and
3 full of life despite their diagnosis; and

4 WHEREAS, Unlike many other rare neuromuscular diseases,
5 there is a clear understanding of the specific genetic cause
6 of spinal muscular atrophy; and

7 WHEREAS, Ongoing research offers the promise that a cure
8 for spinal muscular atrophy may one day be found; and

9 WHEREAS, Increased awareness of spinal muscular atrophy
10 will lead to increased knowledge and increased support for
11 both disease research and the families affected by the
12 disease; therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
14 HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
15 we declare the month of August 2024 as Spinal Muscular Atrophy
16 Awareness Month in the State of Illinois, and we encourage
17 continuing research on spinal muscular atrophy and community
18 support for those affected with the disease.