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2023 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 122

February 14, 2024 - Introduced by Representatives Palmeri, Krug, C. Anderson, Conley, Dittrich, Drake, Emerson, Jacobson, Joers, S. Johnson, Moore Omokunde, Mursau, Ohnstad, Shankland, Sinicki, Stubbs and Subeck, cosponsored by Senators Spreitzer, Roys, Jacque and Agard. Referred to Committee on Rules.

Relating to: proclaiming March 26, 2024 as Purple Day for epilepsy.

Whereas, epilepsy is a neurological disorder producing brief disturbances in the normal electrical functions of the brain that temporarily affects a person's consciousness, bodily movements, or sensations, while creating long-term effects on the lifestyle of individuals with epilepsy; and

Whereas, one in 26 people will develop epilepsy and one in 10 people will have a seizure during his or her lifetime; and

Whereas, epilepsy can affect anyone regardless of gender, race, age, religion, educational background, or socioeconomic status; and

Whereas, epilepsy affects more than 50 million people worldwide, nearly 3 million Americans, and about 60,000 Wisconsinites; and

Whereas, although there is no known cure for epilepsy, existing drug therapy, surgery, and other non-pharmacological treatments enable up to 70 percent of

individuals with epilepsy to lead normal lives with no seizures or with a significant reduction in seizures; and

Whereas, epilepsy is a complex disorder that requires further research to find a cure, additional treatment options, and prevention; and

Whereas, epilepsy and seizure disorders limit options for convenient, affordable, and accessible transportation; and

Whereas, the public is often unable to recognize common seizure types or to respond with appropriate first aid; and

Whereas, the annual observance of Purple Day on March 26 advocates for the rights, humane treatment, stigma reduction, and appropriate education of all persons with epilepsy, while raising awareness in families, professionals, and the general public to better understand this lifelong disorder; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That the legislature proclaims March 26, 2024, as Purple Day, invites all Wisconsinites to participate by wearing purple, and calls upon all citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses, and schools to recommit their communities to increasing awareness and understanding of epilepsy through education while ensuring that all individuals with epilepsy lead a full and productive life; and, be it further

Resolved, That the chief clerk of the assembly shall provide copies of this resolution to the Epilepsy Foundation of Wisconsin.

(END)