

HOUSE RESOLUTION No. 6034

A RESOLUTION designating May as Lupus Awareness Month.

WHEREAS, Every year, the Lupus Foundation of America designates May as National Lupus Awareness Month to show support for the estimated 1.5 million Americans who have lupus; and

WHEREAS, Lupus is an acute and chronic autoimmune disease in which the immune system is unbalanced, causing inflammation and tissue damage to virtually every organ system in the body; and

WHEREAS, Lupus can affect any part of the body, including the skin, lungs, heart, kidneys, and brain; causing seizures, strokes, heart attacks, miscarriages, and organ failure; and

WHEREAS, Despite striking mostly women of childbearing age, no one is safe from lupus. African-Americans, Hispanics, Asians and Native Americans are two to three times more likely to develop lupus - a disparity that remains unexplained; and

WHEREAS, Lupus can be particularly difficult to diagnose because its symptoms are similar to those of many other illnesses, and major gaps exist in understanding the causes and consequences of lupus. More than half of all people with lupus take four or more years and visit three or more doctors before obtaining a correct diagnosis; and

WHEREAS, There have been no new pharmaceuticals approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration specifically for lupus in 50 years, and current treatments for the disease can have damaging side effects; and

WHEREAS, Over 1.5 million Americans are affected by lupus: Now, therefore,

*Be it resolved by the House of Representative of the State of Kansas:* That we designate the month of May as Lupus Awareness Month in the State of Kansas and that we urge all Kansans to observe this month by educating themselves on the symptoms and impact of lupus, and to join with the Lupus Foundation of America in supporting programs of research, education, and community service.

House Resolution No. 6034 was sponsored by Representative Gail Finney.

I hereby certify that the above RESOLUTION originated in the HOUSE, and was adopted by that body

---

*Speaker of the House.*

---

*Chief Clerk of the House.*