

By: Representative Steel

HOUSE RESOLUTION

TO DESIGNATE THE MONTH OF MARCH AS "MULTIPLE SYSTEM ATROPHY AWARENESS MONTH" TO INCREASE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THIS PROGRESSIVE NEURODEGENERATIVE DISORDER THAT AFFECTS THE AUTONOMIC FUNCTIONS OF THE BODY.

Subtitle

TO DESIGNATE THE MONTH OF MARCH AS "MULTIPLE SYSTEM ATROPHY AWARENESS MONTH" TO INCREASE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THIS PROGRESSIVE NEURODEGENERATIVE DISORDER THAT AFFECTS THE AUTONOMIC FUNCTIONS OF THE BODY.

WHEREAS, multiple system atrophy is a neurodegenerative disorder that affects many of the autonomic body systems such as loss of balance and coordination, fainting and dizziness due to severely low blood pressure, bladder and bowel issues, speech and swallowing difficulties, sleep disturbances, breathing problems, and rigidity and tremors similar to Parkinson's disease or amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS); and

WHEREAS, multiple system atrophy generally affects middle-aged men and women and advances rapidly with the progressive loss of motor skills and eventually confinement to bed, and death; and

WHEREAS, people rarely live 15 years with multiple system atrophy; and

WHEREAS, there is no remission from multiple system atrophy and



currently no cure; and

WHEREAS, the current lack of awareness of multiple system atrophy leads to misdiagnosis and mistreatment, as well as misdirected research funding that could be better applied to finding a cure for multiple system atrophy,

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EIGHTY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the House of Representatives designates the month of March as "Multiple System Atrophy Awareness Month" to increase public awareness of this progressive neurodegenerative disorder that affects the autonomic functions of the body.