

By: Representative Vaught

HOUSE RESOLUTION

TO HONOR ZAYDEN DAVIS FOR HIS BRAVERY AND RESILIENCE
IN BATTLING NEUROFIBROMATOSIS AND TO RECOGNIZE HIS
PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS FOR THEIR SUPPORT AND
DEDICATION DURING HIS TREATMENT.

Subtitle

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RESILIENCE IN BATTLING NEUROFIBROMATOSIS
AND TO RECOGNIZE HIS PARENTS AND
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DEDICATION DURING HIS TREATMENT.

WHEREAS, neurofibromatosis, or NF, is a genetic disorder characterized by the growth of tumors on nerves; and

WHEREAS, there are three (3) types of NF, including NF1, NF2, and schwannomatosis; and the most common type is NF1, also called Von Recklinghausen's disease, which is estimated to affect one (1) in every three thousand (3,000) people throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, NF may affect anyone, regardless of family history, race, gender, or ethnicity; and

WHEREAS, complications of NF may include severe pain, bone abnormalities, blindness, deafness, and cancer; and

WHEREAS, NF1 is usually diagnosed in childhood; and



WHEREAS, Zayden Smith of Greenbrier, Arkansas, was diagnosed with NF1 when he was only three (3) months old; and

WHEREAS, when Zayden was fifteen (15) months old, in November 2015, he had his first MRI, which revealed an optic pathway glioma on his left optic nerve; and

WHEREAS, a subsequent scan was performed three (3) months later in February 2016, which showed some signs of regression, and Zayden's physicians decided to scan the area again in six (6) months; and

WHEREAS, in August 2016, an MRI revealed that Zayden had an optic pathway glioma on both his left and right eyes and one on the chiasm where the optic nerves meet, threatening Zayden's vision; and

WHEREAS, Zayden and his family were advised by his physicians to implement a treatment plan due to the aggressive nature of the tumors; and

WHEREAS, the treatment plan includes weekly chemotherapy treatments at the Arkansas Children's Hospital for a year, the treatment ending in September 2017; and

WHEREAS, Zayden will undergo another scan three (3) months post-treatment to detect any growth of the tumors; and

WHEREAS, Zayden has demonstrated bravery and resilience as he continues to battle this genetic disorder; and

WHEREAS, Zayden's parents, Matt and Phaylan Davis, and grandparents, Jo and Larry Davis and Gregg and Janette Clements, have given constant support and dedication during Zayden's treatment,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the House of Representatives acknowledge the struggles of children diagnosed with neurofibromatosis, honor Zayden Davis for his bravery and resilience in battling this disease, and recognize his parents and grandparents for their support and dedication during his treatment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption of this resolution, a copy shall be provided to the family of Zayden Davis by the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives.