

By: Representative Ennett

HOUSE RESOLUTION

TO DESIGNATE FEBRUARY 13, 2023, AS INTERNATIONAL
EPILEPSY DAY.

Subtitle

TO DESIGNATE FEBRUARY 13, 2023, AS
INTERNATIONAL EPILEPSY DAY.

WHEREAS, International Epilepsy Day is a special awareness day that takes place on the second Monday in February to shine a light on the challenges faced by people living with epilepsy; and

WHEREAS, epilepsy, also known as seizure disorder, is the fourth most common neurological disorder and one of the oldest recognized medical conditions; and

WHEREAS, epilepsy causes electrical activity in the brain to stop for a short time, which leads to recurrent seizures; and

WHEREAS, epilepsy ranks among the top five (5) causes of global neurological disability and an estimated one hundred twenty-five thousand (125,000) deaths per year globally are related to the condition; and

WHEREAS, untreated epilepsy is a life-threatening disorder and the death rate for people with epilepsy is three (3) times that of the general population; and

WHEREAS, people with epilepsy are disproportionately affected by other conditions, such as depression, anxiety, dementia, migraine, heart disease,



peptic ulcers, and arthritis; and

WHEREAS, even though sixty-five million (65,000,000) people in the world live with epilepsy, there is still some stigma around the disorder and International Epilepsy Day exists to educate the general public about epilepsy and to teach people how to provide better care for people living with the disorder; and

WHEREAS, this year's theme for International Epilepsy Day, "Step Up Against Stigma", provides a platform for people with epilepsy, and those who care for them, to dispel myths with facts; and

WHEREAS, in many countries, lack of awareness about epilepsy as a treatable brain condition remains a central public health challenge and educating people about epilepsy and dispelling myths can reduce stigma and discrimination at school, at work, in the clinic, across the community, and at home; and

WHEREAS, International Epilepsy Day is an annual event organized by the International Bureau for Epilepsy (IBE) and the International League Against Epilepsy (ILAE) to raise awareness about epilepsy and its impact on individuals, families, and communities around the world,

NOW THEREFORE,

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

THAT the House of Representatives recognize February 13, 2023, as International Epilepsy Day at the Arkansas State Capitol.