

By: Senator J. Dotson

SENATE RESOLUTION

TO PROCLAIM FEBRUARY 24, 2023, AS “SCNA2 DAY” IN
ARKANSAS.

Subtitle

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DAY” IN ARKANSAS.

WHEREAS, SCN2A was first discovered as a cause of benign familial neonatal infantile seizures (BFNIS), a syndrome that often occurs in multiple family members; and

WHEREAS, SCN2A is found on the second chromosome in the twenty-fourth position; and

WHEREAS, children with genetic variants in SCN2A can develop early onset epilepsy with various levels of severity; and

WHEREAS, SCN2A was also discovered as a cause of infantile spasms and other early onset severe epilepsies of childhood, the so-called early infantile epileptic encephalopathies; and

WHEREAS, SCN2A has also been linked to Ohtahara Syndrome, Dravet Syndrome, epilepsy of infancy with migrating focal seizures (EIMFS), and West Syndrome among others; and

WHEREAS, SCN2A variants are believed to be a cause of intellectual disability, schizophrenia, and autism which may occur without associated



epilepsy ; and as a variety of other medical conditions may be present in people with SCN2A-related disorders, including sleep problems, cerebral palsy, and movement disorders; and

WHEREAS, SCN2A is a gene which makes a sodium channel found primarily in the nerve cells that generate electricity, and SCN2A allows too much sodium to enter the nerve cell and thus increases electricity, often presenting with epilepsy as a main symptom; and

WHEREAS, often, genetic testing can diagnose SCN2A mutations; and

WHEREAS, while there is not yet a cure for SCN2A-related disorders, a significant amount of research is leading to new therapies, including the development of genetic approaches that aim to correct the genetic abnormality rather than just treating symptoms, and new drugs that help treat SCN2A; and

WHEREAS, increased awareness of SCN2A by citizens in the State of Arkansas will allow families whose children are afflicted with SCN2A to be better prepared to treat this condition and to be armed with all the necessary information to take care of their children,

NOW THEREFORE,

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

THAT the Senate recognize the impact that SCN2A has on families and proclaim February 24, 2023, as "SCN2A Day" in Arkansas.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption, a copy of this resolution shall be provided to Mr. Brandon Beasley and Mrs. Nicole Beasley by the Secretary of the Senate.