

Substitute for House Resolution No. 141.

A resolution to declare September 2017 as Hydrocephalus Awareness Month in the state of Michigan.

Whereas, Hydrocephalus, formerly known as "water on the brain," occurs when excess fluid builds up in the brain, often because of an obstruction preventing proper fluid drainage. The medical community reports that about one out of every 500 children is born with this incurable condition; and

Whereas, The term hydrocephalus is derived from the Greek words "hydro," meaning "water" and "cephalus," meaning "head." As the name implies, it is a condition in which the primary characteristic is excessive accumulation of cerebral spinal fluid in the brain; and

Whereas, Cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) is a clear fluid that surrounds the brain and spinal cord. The excessive accumulation of CSF results in an abnormal widening of spaces in the brain called ventricles. The widening of the ventricles creates harmful pressure on the tissues of the brain which can cause various health problems, including brain damage and death; and

Whereas, The United States Congress passed a resolution in 2009 designating the month of September as "National Hydrocephalus Awareness Month;" and

Whereas, Jason Adams, father of Hawke Adams, a nine-year-old who suffers from hydrocephalus, has led the effort in Michigan and his hometown of Metamora, geared to increase public awareness and information regarding hydrocephalus; and

Whereas, Representatives from the national, regional, state, and local pediatric hydrocephalus foundations, along with leadership of various professional, community, and medical-based organizations and associations, remain dedicated to increasing public awareness of hydrocephalus and of the needs of families parenting children diagnosed with hydrocephalus; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of this legislative body declare September 2017 as Hydrocephalus Awareness Month in the state of Michigan.