

## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 36

Reps. Clemente, Sowerby, Brixie, Sneller, Ellison, Garza, Brenda Carter, Camilleri, Kennedy, Pagan, Coleman, Manoogian and Love offered the following resolution:

1           A resolution to declare March 7, 2019, as Rare Disease  
2 Awareness Day in the state of Michigan.

3           Whereas, According to the National Institutes of Health (NIH),  
4 there are nearly 7,000 diseases and conditions considered rare  
5 (each affecting fewer than 200,000 Americans) in the United States;  
6 and

7           Whereas, While each of these diseases may affect small numbers  
8 of people, rare diseases as a group affect almost 30 million  
9 Americans; and

10           Whereas, Many rare diseases are serious and depilating

1 conditions that have a significant impact on the lives of those  
2 affected. We believe this resolution can raise awareness and save  
3 lives; and

4       Whereas, While the public is familiar with some rare diseases  
5 such as Lou Gehrig's disease and sympathetic to those affected,  
6 many patients and families affected by less widely known rare  
7 disorders bear a large share of the burden of funding research and  
8 raising awareness to support the search for treatments; and

9       Whereas, Thousands of residents in Michigan are among those  
10 affected by rare diseases as nearly one in ten Americans has a rare  
11 disease; and

12       Whereas, The National Organization for Rare Disorders (NORD)  
13 is organizing a nationwide observance of Rare Disease Awareness Day  
14 on March 7, 2019; now, therefore, be it

15       Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of  
16 this legislative body declare March 7, 2019, as Rare Disease  
17 Awareness Day in the state of Michigan.