

Rep. Brown offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 373.

A resolution commemorating May 2008 as Asthma and Allergy Awareness Month in the state of Michigan.

Whereas, Asthma has reached epidemic proportions in the United States, affecting about 20 million people; and

Whereas, Seasonal allergies affect 35 million Americans; and

Whereas, Food allergies affect 12 million Americans; and

Whereas, Asthma is the leading cause of childhood hospitalizations, long-term illness, and school absenteeism, accounting for more than 14 million missed school days each year; and

Whereas, Each year 2 million people are rushed to the emergency room, 5,000 people die from asthma and 150 die from food allergy reactions; and

Whereas, Asthma and allergic diseases cost the U.S. economy over \$25 billion annually; and

Whereas, Asthma is a long-term, inflammatory disease in which the airways of the lungs constrict, causing wheezing, breathlessness, chest tightness, and coughing; and

Whereas, Exposure to allergens and irritants such as dust mites, mold, cockroaches, pet dander, and secondhand smoke can bring on an asthma episode; and

Whereas, There are simple steps people can take to reduce their exposure to environmental asthma triggers; and

Whereas, Healthcare professionals are encouraged to adhere to current treatment guidelines, as established by the National Heart Lung and Blood Institute, in their treatment regimens; and

Whereas, The Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America (AAFA) is the leading non-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life for people with asthma and allergies through education, advocacy and research; and

Whereas, A national month dedicated to educating all Americans about comprehensive asthma management and to increase public understanding of asthma and allergies, as well as how to manage them; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of this legislative body commemorate May 2008 as Asthma and Allergy Awareness Month in the state of Michigan; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America - Michigan Chapter and Shering-Plough, State Government Affairs in an effort to raise awareness and promote education and training programs in Michigan.