

1 State of Arkansas
2 93rd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2021

SR 20

4
5 By: Senator G. Stubblefield

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7 **SENATE RESOLUTION**

8 TO PROCLAIM OCTOBER 2021 RETT SYNDROME AWARENESS
9 MONTH.

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12 **Subtitle**

13 TO PROCLAIM OCTOBER 2021 RETT SYNDROME
14 AWARENESS MONTH.

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19 WHEREAS, Rett syndrome is a rare postnatal genetic neurological
20 disorder that occurs almost exclusively in females, and rarely in males; and

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22 WHEREAS, the symptoms of Rett syndrome usually do not appear until six
23 (6) to eighteen (18) months after birth; and

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25 WHEREAS, a regression period follows in which acquired motor skills are
26 lost, leading to lifelong impairments, including loss of speech, seizures,
27 scoliosis, and irregular breathing patterns. The hallmark sign of Rett
28 syndrome is near-constant repetitive hand movements while awake; and

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30 WHEREAS, those diagnosed with Rett syndrome require maximum assistance
31 with daily living activities; and

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33 WHEREAS, the disorder is not degenerative, and biomedical research in
34 mice suggests that neurological symptoms may be reversed even after decades
35 of severe symptoms; and

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1 WHEREAS, with the discovery of the gene that causes Rett syndrome in
2 1999, research in the laboratory that proved the theory of reversibility of
3 the disease in 2007, the discovery of breakthrough testing using in vitro
4 models in 2010, and the launch of multiple disease-modifying human clinical
5 trials recently, we have now reached an unprecedented and historic moment in
6 time when we must do everything possible to fund the truly life-changing
7 research in front of us; and

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9 WHEREAS, we should continue our efforts in bringing awareness to the
10 medical community, therapists, teachers, caregivers, and the general public,
11 and support researchers who are dedicated to finding a cure for Rett
12 syndrome; and

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14 WHEREAS, the State of Arkansas supports this shared mission,

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16 NOW THEREFORE,

17 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE
18 STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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20 THAT the Senate proclaim October 2021 as Rett Syndrome Awareness Month
21 in Arkansas.