

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 118

By Jernigan

A RESOLUTION to designate October 2023 as "Spina Bifida Awareness Month" in Tennessee.

WHEREAS, the most common, permanently disabling birth defect that is associated with life is spina bifida; and

WHEREAS, according to the National Spina Bifida Association, spina bifida is a birth defect that occurs when the spine and spinal cord do not form properly; and

WHEREAS, approximately 166,000 individuals in the United States have spina bifida; based on the national estimate and the birth rate of spina bifida, an estimated 2,542 individuals with spina bifida reside in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the awareness of spina bifida is of vital importance to every Tennessean, including the more than 2,000,000 women of childbearing age who live in the Volunteer State; and

WHEREAS, the National Spina Bifida Association is asking every state to recognize the month of October as "Spina Bifida Awareness Month"; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we designate the month of October 2023 as "Spina Bifida Awareness Month" in the State of Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.