

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 420

Expressing support for the designation of the week of July 9 through July 15, 2017, as “Sarcoma Awareness Week” and July 15, 2017, as “Leiomyosarcoma Awareness Day”.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 28, 2017

Mr. LEVIN submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

RESOLUTION

Expressing support for the designation of the week of July 9 through July 15, 2017, as “Sarcoma Awareness Week” and July 15, 2017, as “Leiomyosarcoma Awareness Day”.

Whereas a soft tissue sarcoma is a rare type of cancer, accounting for approximately 1 percent of all newly diagnosed cancers, that arises in the connective tissue of the body;

Whereas the National Institutes of Health designates sarcoma as a rare form of cancer, with sarcoma containing approximately 70 different subtypes;

Whereas sarcomas are largely resistant to current chemotherapy agents, immunotherapy agents, and radiation

therapies, posing a formidable challenge for researchers and specialists;

Whereas sarcoma subtypes have largely not received benefit from immunotherapies due to the complexity of the DNA, genomes, and mutations associated with the many variations in the sarcoma subtype landscape;

Whereas leiomyosarcoma (referred to in this preamble as “LMS”) is a malignant, aggressive subtype of soft tissue sarcoma derived from smooth muscle cells typically of uterine, gastrointestinal, or soft tissue origin, and can metastasize to the bone, spine, brain, and liver;

Whereas the National Institutes of Health classifies LMS as a rare disease, accounting for approximately 15 percent of all sarcomas, and LMS itself encompasses at least 4 different LMS subtypes;

Whereas LMS primarily affects adults without regard to gender;

Whereas research and clinical trials for LMS remain complicated, and the prospects for long-term survival remain poor;

Whereas multidisciplinary care coordination teams, because of their expertise and experience, are critical to the health of sarcoma and LMS patients;

Whereas sarcoma and LMS research will allow medical professionals to improve the quality of care for affected patients, lead to better clinical outcomes, and promote longer survival for patients; and

Whereas increased education and awareness about sarcoma and LMS will contribute to the well-being of the communities of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) supports the designation of “Sarcoma
3 Awareness Week”;

4 (2) supports the designation of “Leiomyosarco-
5 ma Awareness Day”;

6 (3) recognizes the challenges faced by sarcoma
7 and leiomyosarcoma patients; and

8 (4) commends the dedication of organizations,
9 volunteers, researchers, and caregivers across the
10 country working to improve the quality of life of sar-
11 coma and leiomyosarcoma patients and their fami-
12 lies.

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