



State of Wisconsin
2021 - 2022 LEGISLATURE

LRB-4522/1
MRK:skw

2021 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 79

September 20, 2021 - Introduced by Representatives DITTRICH, STEINEKE and DUCHOW, cosponsored by Senator JAGLER. Referred to Committee on Rules.

1 **Relating to:** proclaiming August 17, 2021, as Locked-in Syndrome Day in
2 Wisconsin.

3 Whereas, locked-in syndrome is a rare neurological disorder in which
4 cognitively intact individuals have complete paralysis of nearly all voluntary
5 muscles in the body, except for the muscles that control the eyes; and

6 Whereas, locked-in syndrome is caused by damage to a portion of the brain
7 stem known as the pons, which can be the result of stroke, diseases of the circulatory
8 system, traumatic brain injury, medication overdose, or poisoning, among other
9 things; and

10 Whereas, an individual with locked-in syndrome is alert and aware of his or her
11 environment and can fully comprehend others' speech; and

12 Whereas, many of those with locked-in syndrome are able to communicate with
13 others through eye movements or blinking; and

1 Whereas, the development of new brain-computer interfaces, such as infrared
2 eye movement sensors and computer voice prosthetics, are allowing patients to more
3 easily communicate with others and even access the Internet; and

4 Whereas, there is currently no specific treatment or cure for the disorder and
5 it is extremely rare for any significant motor function to return for locked-in
6 syndrome patients; and

7 Whereas, many cases of locked-in syndrome may go unrecognized or
8 misdiagnosed; now, therefore, be it

9 ***Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That*** the legislature
10 hereby proclaims August 17, 2021, as Locked-in Syndrome Day in Wisconsin to
11 bring awareness to this rare and devastating neurological disorder.

12

(END)