

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1853

A RESOLUTION designating May as Lupus Awareness Month.

WHEREAS, Every year, the Lupus Foundation of America designates May as National Lupus Awareness Month to show support for the estimated 1.5 million Americans who have lupus; and

WHEREAS, Lupus is an acute and chronic autoimmune disease in which the immune system is unbalanced, causing inflammation and tissue damage to virtually every organ system in the body; and

WHEREAS, Lupus can affect any part of the body, including the skin, lungs, heart, kidneys and brain; causing seizures, strokes, heart attacks, miscarriages and organ failure; and

WHEREAS, Despite striking mostly women of childbearing age, no one is safe from lupus. African-Americans, Hispanics, Asians and Native Americans are two to three times more likely to develop lupus—a disparity that remains unexplained; and

WHEREAS, Lupus can be particularly difficult to diagnose because its symptoms are similar to those of many other illnesses, and major gaps exist in understanding the causes and consequences of lupus. More than half of all people with lupus take four or more years and visit three or more doctors before obtaining a correct diagnosis; and

WHEREAS, There have been no new pharmaceuticals approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration specifically for lupus in 50 years, and current treatments for the disease can have damaging side effects: Now, therefore,

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas:* That we designate the month of May as Lupus Awareness Month in the State of Kansas, and we urge all Kansans to educate themselves regarding the symptoms and impact of lupus and to join with the Lupus Foundation of America in supporting programs of research, education and community service; and

*Be it further resolved:* That the Secretary of the Senate be directed to provide an enrolled copy of this resolution to Senator Oletha Faust-Goudeau.

Senate Resolution No. 1853 was sponsored by Senator Oletha Faust-Goudeau.

I hereby certify that the above RESOLUTION originated in the SENATE, and was adopted by that body

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*President of the Senate.*

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*Secretary of the Senate.*