

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 124

Senators Johnson, Outman, Nesbitt, Webber, Lauwers, Bumstead, Hauck, Hoitenga, Huizenga, Albert, Bellino, Lindsey, Damoose, Theis, Wojno, Chang, Bayer, Shink, Irwin and McDonald Rivet offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to designate May 2024 as Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome
2 (EDS) Awareness Month.

3 Whereas, Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome (EDS) is an inherited
4 condition that affects the connective tissues of the body; and

5 Whereas, Connective tissues provide support in skin, tendons,
6 ligaments, blood vessels, internal organs, and bones; and

7 Whereas, There are 13 types of EDS caused by genetic defects
8 in collagen, one of the major structural components of the body;
9 and

1 Whereas, Symptoms of EDS may include joint hypermobility,
2 loose or unstable joints that dislocate easily, joint pain, skin
3 that bruises easily, digestive problems, dizziness and increased
4 heart rate when standing up, and problems with internal organs; and

5 Whereas, Early and accurate diagnosis can provide the
6 opportunity to create lifesaving medical plans and improve quality
7 of life; and

8 Whereas, Eighty percent of people with EDS also have postural
9 orthostatic tachycardia syndrome (POTS); and

10 Whereas, POTS causes an individual's heart rate to increase
11 quickly after getting up from sitting or lying down causing
12 symptoms such as dizziness or light-headedness, fainting or almost
13 fainting, heart palpitations, chest pain, shortness of breath, and
14 shaking or sweating; and

15 Whereas, Those suffering from POTS may also have additional
16 medical problems including digestion problems such as feeling or
17 being sick, diarrhea, constipation, bloating and stomach pain,
18 headaches and problems with sight such as blurred vision or tunnel
19 vision, hands and feet looking purple, weakness and extreme
20 fatigue, and problems with thinking, memory, and concentration; and

21 Whereas, It is estimated that the prevalence of all types of
22 EDS combined affect at least 1 in 5,000 people worldwide with
23 recent research indicating that it is likely underdiagnosed; and

24 Whereas, EDS may significantly decrease both quantity and
25 quality of life for those affected; and

26 Whereas, Currently, there is no treatment and no known cure
27 for EDS. Further medical research and awareness can bring hope for
28 those with EDS; and

29 Whereas, A network of EDS support groups can help connect

1 those managing life with this disease. Additionally, they help
2 inform the health care community and the public; now, therefore, be
3 it

4 Resolved by the Senate, That the members of this legislative
5 body designate May 2024 as Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome (EDS) Awareness
6 Month. We honor those bravely suffering from EDS and encourage
7 scientific research and funding to find a cure.