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A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

<u>23-34</u>

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

March 5, 2019

To declare the month of March 2019 as "Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Month" in the District of Columbia.

WHEREAS, March is recognized by the National Multiple Sclerosis Society and The Multiple Sclerosis Association of America as MS Awareness Month;

WHEREAS, multiple sclerosis is a disease of the central nervous system that disrupts the flow of information within the brain and between the brain and body;

WHEREAS, the symptoms of multiple sclerosis are unique but include excessive fatigue, numbress in the extremities, loss of vision, and paralysis;

WHEREAS, every week, approximately 200 people are diagnosed with multiple sclerosis and the disease affects approximately 6,000 people in the District of Columbia metropolitan area and 400,000 people nationwide;

WHEREAS, multiple sclerosis affects the person with the disease and also has an impact on the entire family;

WHEREAS, the numerous advocates, champions, and supporters fighting against multiple sclerosis, including the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Greater DC-Maryland Chapter, support the mission to end the devastating effects of multiple sclerosis;

WHEREAS, thousands of volunteers, corporations, and health professionals are working diligently with the National Multiple Sclerosis Society and their local chapters to end the devastating effects of multiple sclerosis;

WHEREAS, research continues to bring us closer to a cure while contributing to the development of improved treatment options that ultimately enhance the quality of life for people living with multiple sclerosis; and

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WHEREAS, the District of Columbia anticipates the day when no woman or man has to be treated for this disease.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the "Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Month Recognition Resolution of 2019".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia honors patients, survivors, and their families and declares March 2019 as "Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Month" in the District of Columbia to promote research for a cure.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the District of Columbia Register.