

HR 8027

2020

## House Resolution

A resolution recognizing August 10, 2020, as "Tay-Sachs Disease Awareness Day" in Florida.

WHEREAS, Tay-Sachs disease is a genetic disorder caused by the absence of beta-hexosaminidase (HexA), which causes cells to become damaged, resulting in progressive neurological disorders, and

WHEREAS, infants with Tay-Sachs disease often fail to achieve milestones such as rolling over and sitting up, and develop muscle weakness, which gradually leads to paralysis, and

WHEREAS, infants also lose mental functions and become increasingly unresponsive to their surroundings, in some cases developing blindness, seizures, and difficulty swallowing by 12 months of age, and

WHEREAS, children with Tay-Sachs disease often die by 4 years of age, and

WHEREAS, the carrier rate of Tay-Sachs disease for the general population is 1/250, and a child has a 25 percent chance of having the disease when both parents are carriers, and

WHEREAS, there is currently no treatment or cure for Tay-Sachs disease, rather only ways to manage symptoms, and

WHEREAS, increasing awareness and education of Tay-Sachs disease may lead to significant progress in the research to

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25 | determine the cause of the gene mutation that results in the  
26 | disease, and eventually a cure, NOW, THEREFORE,

27 |  
28 | Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of  
29 | Florida:

30 |  
31 |       That August 10, 2020, is recognized as "Tay-Sachs Disease  
32 | Awareness Day" in Florida.