

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 107

By Hill M

A RESOLUTION to designate the month of September 2019 as "Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis Research and Awareness Month" in the State of Tennessee to increase awareness and understanding of idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis.

WHEREAS, idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (IPF) is a debilitating and fatal disease marked by progressive scarring of the lungs, causing an irreversible loss of the lung tissue's ability to transport oxygen; and

WHEREAS, IPF may progress quickly, often causing disability or death within three to five years; and

WHEREAS, there is no proven cause of IPF, and it is often misdiagnosed or underdiagnosed; and

WHEREAS, IPF is the most common form of interstitial lung disease; and

WHEREAS, IPF is five times more common than cystic fibrosis and Lou Gehrig's disease, yet the disease remains virtually unknown and receives a fraction of the research funding; and

WHEREAS, more than 132,000 United States citizens have IPF, and approximately 50,000 new cases are diagnosed each year; and

WHEREAS, as many as 40,000 people die each year due to IPF, the same number as breast cancer; and

WHEREAS, over 450 lung transplants have been performed in Tennessee since 2007; and

WHEREAS, approximately 61.5 percent of transplants performed in the State were for patients with IPF; and

WHEREAS, a need has been identified to increase research, awareness, and detection of IPF; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we designate the month of September 2019 as "Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis Research and Awareness Month" in Tennessee to increase awareness and understanding of idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis.