

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO.200

Reps. Puri, Aiyash, Bezotte, Breen, Haadsma, Kahle, Morse, Rogers, Sneller, Sowerby, Steenland, Thanedar and Witwer offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to declare December 1-7, 2021, as Crohn's Disease
2 and Ulcerative Colitis Awareness Week in the state of Michigan.

3 Whereas, Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis are
4 inflammatory bowel diseases that cause chronic inflammation and
5 damage in the gastrointestinal tract and impair the ability of the
6 affected organs to function properly. The most common symptoms of
7 these two diseases are persistent diarrhea, abdominal pain, rectal
8 bleeding, weight loss, and fatigue; and

9 Whereas, Individuals with inflammatory bowel disease (IBD)
10 often go through periods of remission with few or no symptoms,

alternating with periods of flare-ups when the disease is active and presenting symptoms; and

Whereas, The exact cause of these diseases is not entirely understood, but they do involve a complex interaction between genes, the immune system and environmental factors; and

Whereas, Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis affect millions of adults and children in the United States. These diseases are most often diagnosed in adolescence and early adulthood between 15 and 35 years of age. The conditions are chronic and can significantly affect a patient's quality of life; and

Whereas, Cases of inflammatory bowel diseases are on the rise in the United States. The annual financial burden of inflammatory bowel diseases in the United States is estimated to be between \$14.6 and \$31.6 billion. The costs of care for IBD have increased in the last 5 years and are driven by specific therapeutics and disease features; and

Whereas, Compared with non-IBD controls, IBD patients are increasingly incurring higher costs associated with health care utilization, out-of-pocket expenditures, and workplace productivity losses; and

Whereas, There is no cure for Crohn's disease or ulcerative colitis, only medications and treatments that aim to suppress inflammation, achieve and maintain remission and improve overall quality of life; and

Whereas, Even with treatment, 23 to 45% of people with ulcerative colitis require surgery after 30 years with the disease, and approximately 75% of people with Crohn's disease eventually require surgery; and

1 Whereas, The Crohn's and Colitis Foundation sponsors cutting-
2 edge research to find a cure and works diligently to improve the
3 quality of life of children and adults affected by these diseases
4 through a wide range of educational programs and support services
5 for both patients and health care professionals; and

6 Whereas, "Crohn's Disease and Ulcerative Colitis Awareness
7 Week" increases public awareness of these diseases, acknowledges
8 the medical and financial impact these diseases have on affected
9 individuals and their families and promotes initiatives to improve
10 treatments and find a cure for Crohn's disease and ulcerative
11 colitis; now, therefore, be it

12 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of
13 this legislative body declare December 1-7, 2021, as Crohn's
14 Disease and Ulcerative Colitis Awareness Week in the state of
15 Michigan. We acknowledge individuals suffering from these diseases
16 and their desire for a cure.