

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 94

Senators VanderWall, Bayer, Bullock and Chang offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to recognize November 14-20, 2021, as Thyroid Eye
2 Disease (TED) Awareness Week.

3 Whereas, The National Institute of Health (NIH) defines a rare
4 disease as a condition that affects fewer than 200,000 people in
5 the United States. Today, there are approximately 7,000 rare
6 diseases impacting almost 30 million Americans; and

7 Whereas, Thyroid eye disease, also known as TED, is both a
8 serious, progressive and rare autoimmune condition in which the
9 body's immune system mistakenly attacks healthy muscle and fat
10 tissue behind the eye, causing inflammation and scar tissue to
11 form; and

Whereas, People with TED often have debilitating symptoms of eye bulging, double vision, blurred vision, pain, facial disfigurement and, in severe cases, blindness; and

Whereas, People living with TED often face long-term functional, psychosocial, and economic burdens, including the inability to work or perform the activities of daily living; and

Whereas, The exact underlying process by which TED occurs is not fully understood. TED is a serious, vision-threatening condition that can get worse over time; and

Whereas, TED is estimated to have a prevalence of 16 per 100,000 women, and 2.9 per 100,000 men in the general population; and

Whereas, A diagnosis of TED is based upon identification of characteristic symptoms, a detailed patient history, a thorough clinical evaluation, and a variety of specialized tests; and

Whereas, Since there is also a genetic component to the condition, people who have a family member with the disease or a family member with an autoimmune disease are at a greater risk of developing TED; and

Whereas, TED Awareness Week was established through a collaboration of advocacy organizations including the American Autoimmune Related Diseases Association, Inc (AARDA) and Prevent Blindness; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That the members of this legislative body recognize November 14-20, 2021, as Thyroid Eye Disease (TED) Awareness Week; and be it further

Resolved, That Michigan, along with AARDA and Prevent Blindness, continue to engage in disease awareness and patient support for TED.