

## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO.327

Rep. Breen offered the following resolution:

1       A resolution to declare July 2022 as Cleft and Craniofacial  
2 Awareness Month in the state of Michigan.

3       Whereas, Cleft lip and cleft palate are birth defects that  
4 occur when a baby's lip or mouth do not form properly before birth.  
5 Together, these birth defects commonly are called "orofacial  
6 clefts" or "oral clefts" (OFCs). Affecting 1-2 per 1,000 newborns,  
7 together they are among the more common birth defects and the most  
8 common affecting the face; and

9       Whereas, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)  
10 recently estimated that each year 2,651 babies in the United States  
11 are born with a cleft palate and 4,437 babies are born with a cleft  
12 lip (with or without a cleft palate); and

1       Whereas, In Michigan, from 1992 to 2010, the incidence of OFC  
2 was about 1 in 637 live births (15.7 cases per 10,000 live births)  
3 with an average number of 75 cases of cleft palate and 130 cases of  
4 cleft lip (with or without cleft palate) each year; and

5       Whereas, These birth defects happen early during pregnancy, by  
6 5 to 6 weeks after conception for cleft lip and by about 10 weeks  
7 after conception for cleft palate. A baby can have a cleft lip, a  
8 cleft palate, or both. A cleft may affect one side of the lip  
9 and/or palate (unilateral) or both sides (bilateral) and may  
10 disrupt the formation of the nose and/or extend into the gum or  
11 upper jawbone; and

12       Whereas, Without proper medical intervention, the quality of  
13 life of these newborn children are negatively impacted. Children  
14 with orofacial clefts often have problems with feeding and talking.  
15 They might also have ear infections, hearing loss, and problems  
16 with their teeth. These children usually require one or more  
17 surgeries early in life, as well as special feeding techniques,  
18 orthodontic care and/or speech therapy. Severity varies with the  
19 degree of clefting and with the presence of other birth defects.  
20 In extreme cases, death may result; and

21       Whereas, Children who can have their orofacial clefts treated  
22 are better positioned to live healthy and productive lives in the  
23 same manner as children who are not born with clefts; now,  
24 therefore, be it

25       Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of  
26 this legislative body declare July 2022 as Cleft and Craniofacial  
27 Awareness Month in the state of Michigan. We encourage increased  
28 awareness and recognition to these birth defects and those who live  
29 with them.