

No. R-371. House concurrent resolution designating May as Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Month in Vermont.

(H.C.R.284)

Offered by: Representatives Donahue of Northfield, Bancroft of Westford, Beck of St. Johnsbury, Branagan of Georgia, Burditt of West Rutland, Cupoli of Rutland City, Dakin of Chester, Dame of Essex, Dickinson of St. Albans Town, Eastman of Orwell, Fields of Bennington, Frank of Underhill, Gamache of Swanton, Haas of Rochester, Juskiewicz of Cambridge, Komline of Dorset, LaClair of Barre Town, Lanpher of Vergennes, Long of Newfane, Lucke of Hartford, Masland of Thetford, McCoy of Poultney, McFaun of Barre Town, Nuovo of Middlebury, Olsen of Londonderry, Patt of Worcester, Pearson of Burlington, Rachelson of Burlington, Scheuermann of Stowe, Strong of Albany, Sullivan of Burlington, Sweaney of Windsor, Tate of Mendon, Walz of Barre City, Woodward of Johnson, and Yantachka of Charlotte

Whereas, Cystic Fibrosis (CF) results from a defective gene that causes a thick buildup of mucus in a person's lungs, pancreas, and other organs, and

Whereas, CF's symptoms include persistent coughing, wheezing, or shortness of breath, and frequent lung infections, including pneumonia or bronchitis, and

Whereas, about 30,000 persons living in the United States and approximately 70,000 worldwide have CF, and

Whereas, although nearly 50 percent of persons with CF are 18 years of age or older, doctors are able to diagnose more than 75 percent of cases by the time persons are 2 years of age, and

Whereas, early medical treatment can be critical for persons with CF, and the University of Vermont Medical Center and the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center are both members of the Northern New England Cystic Fibrosis Consortium, and

Whereas, it is also important that persons with CF engage in continuing recreational exercise, and

Whereas, persons with CF are afforded a special opportunity to participate in recreational exercise through the commendable work of the Burlington-based Cystic Fibrosis Lifestyle Foundation (CFLF), and

Whereas, Brian Callanan is a Vermonter who confronted CF pain that was spurred in part from a lack of proper exercise, and

Whereas, he became an excellent skier, which both proved an enjoyable athletic pastime and improved his health and mental outlook considerably, and

Whereas, a St. Michael's College undergraduate and graduate degree recipient, he founded CFLF, where he now serves as executive director, and

Whereas, CFLF awards recreation grants to youngsters and adults to finance individually tailored recreational programs, and

Whereas, May is known as CF Awareness Month in many communities, and its observance in Vermont would increase local knowledge of CF, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly designates May as Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Month in Vermont, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Cystic Fibrosis Lifestyle Foundation in Burlington and to the Northern New England Chapter of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation in Nashua, New Hampshire.