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House Resolution

A resolution designating February 2023 as "VATER Syndrome Awareness Month" in Florida.

WHEREAS, the health and well-being of all Floridians contributes greatly to the prosperity and livelihood of our state's families and communities, and

WHEREAS, VATER syndrome, also known as VACTERL association, refers to several different birth defects that frequently occur in conjunction with each other, specifically vertebral abnormalities, anal atresia, cardiac malformations, tracheoesophageal fistula, renal abnormalities, and limb abnormalities, causing devastating damage to the people who are afflicted with the disease, yet the syndrome is not well-known outside of those impacted, and

WHEREAS, up to 80 percent of those with VATER syndrome are impacted by cardiac defects, and up to 70 percent have limb defects, and

WHEREAS, since babies born with VATER syndrome exhibit a wide variety of symptoms, it is difficult to pinpoint exactly how many individuals are impacted, and only a broad estimate of between 1 in 10,000 to 40,000 people with the syndrome can be made, and

WHEREAS, doctors and hospitals in Florida diagnose and treat VATER syndrome, NOW, THEREFORE,

HR 8047

2023

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27 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
28 Florida:

29
30 That February 2023 is designated as "VATER Syndrome
31 Awareness Month" in Florida to raise awareness of the disease,
32 which may result in more research on the syndrome, treatment,
33 and diagnosis.