

## Senate Resolution 109

By: Senators Watson of the 1st, Gooch of the 51st, Kirk of the 13th, Dugan of the 30th and Harbin of the 16th

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing March 28, 2019, as Progressive Multiple Sclerosis Day at the state capitol; and  
2 for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, there are more than 400,000 people in the United States and an estimated  
4 2.3 million people globally who are living with multiple sclerosis (MS), a chronic, disabling  
5 disease of the central nervous system for which there is no cure; and

6 WHEREAS, nearly 80 percent of people with MS may develop a progressive form of the  
7 disease, characterized as progressive worsening of neurological function over time; and

8 WHEREAS, MS is between two and three times more common in women than in men and  
9 is typically diagnosed when individuals are in the prime of their lives, between the ages of  
10 20 and 50; and

11 WHEREAS, this disease can cause many symptoms, including blurred vision, loss of  
12 balance, poor coordination, slurred speech, tremors, numbness, extreme fatigue, problems  
13 with memory and concentration, paralysis, blindness, and more; and

14 WHEREAS, due to these symptoms and progression of the disease, people with MS; their  
15 families, caregivers, and employers; and the entire health care system carry substantial  
16 clinical and economic burdens over of a period of many years; and

17 WHEREAS, lost productivity related to loss of employment or the need to retire early due  
18 to disease progression may be the largest single factor that contributes to the nonmedical  
19 financial, familial, and societal costs of MS; and

20 WHEREAS, early and appropriate treatment, including the use of disease-modifying  
21 therapies, can markedly reduce disease activity and accumulation of disability, potentially  
22 allowing patients to have a more active and independent lifestyle; and

23 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the public be appropriately notified of  
24 the severity and symptoms of multiple sclerosis.

25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
26 acknowledge the importance of education regarding the plight of those with multiple  
27 sclerosis and recognize March 28, 2019, as Progressive Multiple Sclerosis Day at the state  
28 capitol.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
30 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the public and the  
31 press.