

2017 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 98

BY REPRESENTATIVE ANDERS AND SENATOR RISER

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To recognize June 2017 as Apert Awareness Month in Louisiana.

WHEREAS, Apert syndrome causes abnormal growth of several bones in the body, primarily the skull, midface, hands, and feet; and

WHEREAS, in Apert syndrome, the newborn child's "plates" that normally fuse to create the skull fuse too early, restricting brain growth and causing increased pressure in the brain as it grows, a condition known as craniosynostosis; and

WHEREAS, one of the single most common identifying features of Apert syndrome is the fusion of the fingers and toes; and

WHEREAS, Apert syndrome is a result of genetic mutation, and can be inherited from a parent who has Apert's, or may be a fresh, sporadic mutation; it occurs in approximately 1 per 160,000 to 200,000 live births; and

WHEREAS, the treatment of a child born with Apert syndrome is complex and is best provided by comprehensive craniofacial teams at major centers; treatment generally consists of multiple surgeries during the child's developmental years; and

WHEREAS, the Ellis Malone Foundation was created to raise awareness and provide medical-related financial assistance to Apert families in the Concordia Parish region; and

WHEREAS, the organization is named after Ellis Malone, born in April 2012, who is an active Louisiana resident in Concordia Parish who suffers from Apert syndrome, and who enjoys socializing, ballet, playing with her friends, brothers, and cousins, and reading; and

WHEREAS, the Ellis Malone Foundation has declared June to be Apert Awareness Month.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize June 2017 as Apert Awareness Month in Louisiana and encourages the citizens of Louisiana to educate themselves about Apert syndrome and provide assistance to the children and families who are affected by this syndrome.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the president of the Ellis Malone Foundation.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE