

## **SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 11**

Whereas, hydrocephalus is a serious neurological condition, characterized by the abnormal build up of cerebrospinal fluids in the ventricles of the brain; and

Whereas, there is no known cure for hydrocephalus, which affects an estimated one million Americans; and

Whereas, one or two in every one thousand babies are born with hydrocephalus; and

Whereas, over 375,000 older Americans have hydrocephalus which often goes undetected or misdiagnosed as dementia, Alzheimer's disease, or Parkinson's disease; and

Whereas, with appropriate diagnosis and treatment, people with hydrocephalus are able to live full and productive lives; and

Whereas, the standard treatment for hydrocephalus was developed in 1953 and carries multiple risks, including shunt failure, infection, and over drainage; and

Whereas, there are fewer than ten centers in the United States specializing in the treatment of adults with normal pressure hydrocephalus; and

Whereas, each year the people of the United States spend in excess of one million dollars to treat hydrocephalus; and

Whereas, the Hydrocephalus Association is one of the nation's oldest and largest patient and research advocacy and support network for individuals suffering from hydrocephalus; and

Whereas, further research into the epidemiology, pathology, disease burden, and improved treatment of hydrocephalus should be conducted and supported; and

Whereas, public awareness and professional education regarding hydrocephalus should increase through partnership between the local, state, and federal governments and patient advocacy organizations, such as the Hydrocephalus Association:

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that the members of the Missouri Senate, One hundred first General Assembly, First Regular Session, the House of Representatives concurring therein, hereby recognize the month of October 2021 as "Hydrocephalus Awareness Month" in Missouri so that Missourians can become more familiar with hydrocephalus and the individuals dedicated to finding its cure; and

Be it further resolved that the Missouri General Assembly urges the federal government to collect comprehensive statistics and data regarding the seriousness of hydrocephalus and its impact on American families.