

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 119

By Bell

A RESOLUTION to commemorate March 2019 as "Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month" in Tennessee.

WHEREAS, hemophilia is a rare genetic condition affecting hundreds of people in Tennessee, and von Willebrand disease impacts countless others in our State; and

WHEREAS, without treatment, people with hemophilia and other related bleeding disorders face frequent, spontaneous bleeding episodes in their joints, causing swelling in the joints, muscles, internal organs, and brain; repeated bleeding episodes in the joints result in chronic degenerative arthritic conditions, which often lead to frequent hospitalizations, permanent disability, and chronic pain; bleeding episodes involving internal organs and the brain can cause permanent damage, disability, and even death; and

WHEREAS, many individuals with hemophilia became infected with HIV and Hepatitis C in the 1980s due to the contamination of the blood supply and blood products; and

WHEREAS, with proper care and access to comprehensive medical resources, persons with hemophilia and other related bleeding disorders can control bleeding episodes and can lead productive lives; and

WHEREAS, visits to federally recognized Hemophilia Treatment Centers reduce morbidity and mortality significantly; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee is committed to proper care and treatment of children and adults with hemophilia and other related bleeding disorders; and

WHEREAS, this Awareness Month will generate greater understanding of not only hemophilia but all inheritable bleeding disorders; and

WHEREAS, this Awareness Month will foster a greater sense of community and shared purpose among individuals with all inheritable bleeding disorders; and

WHEREAS, this Awareness Month will elevate the awareness of and engagement in the inheritable bleeding disorders journey beyond this community to the general public, enabling the prevention of illness, unnecessary procedures, and disability; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we proudly commemorate March 2019 as "Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month" in the State of Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.