

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 508

By Crowe

A RESOLUTION to designate March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2014 as Lynch Syndrome Hereditary Cancer Day in Tennessee.

WHEREAS, in an effort to raise awareness globally about the effects of specific genetic disorders, Lynch Syndrome Hereditary Cancer Day, on March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2014, has been designated as the occasion to bring forth an international audience in an attempt to raise cognizance about issues surrounding this rare disease; and

WHEREAS, Lynch syndrome is caused by an inherited genetic mutation that prevents a gene, one which ordinarily prevents cancer, from functioning properly and therefore allows the cancer to spread more quickly; and

WHEREAS, as many as 600,000 to 1,000,000 people are affected by Lynch syndrome in the United States alone, with approximately 20,000 of those living in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, less than five percent of the carriers of the gene are aware of it, putting them at a significantly higher risk of aggressive cancers; and

WHEREAS, children of those with Lynch syndrome have 50% risk of inheriting the mutated genes; and

WHEREAS, many people are unaware of this disease, and many people remain untreated because of such lack of knowledge; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting and proper that this General Assembly should pause to reflect on the impact that this gene mutation has on our society and the ways in which awareness, research, and treatment can improve the health status of those living with the disease; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby proclaim March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2014, to be “Lynch Syndrome Hereditary Cancer Day” in Tennessee, and encourage all citizens to learn more about the causes and symptoms of Lynch syndrome and support improvements in diagnosis, treatment, and quality of life.

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