

**No. R-106. House concurrent resolution designating March 17, 2015 as Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Day in Vermont.**

(H.C.R.73)

Offered by: Representatives Krebs of South Hero and Johnson of South Hero

Whereas, multiple sclerosis (MS) is a neurological disease of the central nervous system affecting 2.3 million people worldwide, and each hour someone is newly diagnosed with MS, and

Whereas, the National Multiple Sclerosis Society-Greater New England Chapter reports that in Vermont more than 1,600 people are diagnosed with MS, and that the disease generally strikes people in the prime of life, between 20 through 50 years of age, and

Whereas, MS causes unpredictable effects in which the progression, severity, and specific symptoms cannot be foreseen, and the cause and cure for this often debilitating disease remain unknown, and

Whereas, for more than 59 years, the National Multiple Sclerosis Society-Greater New England Chapter has been committed to a world free of MS, through a heightening of public knowledge about and insight into the disease, and

Whereas, since 1946, the National Multiple Sclerosis Society has been a driving force for MS research relentlessly pursuing prevention, treatment, and a cure, and, globally, the society has invested more than \$868 million in groundbreaking research, and

Whereas, the \$50.2 million the National Multiple Sclerosis Society raises annually supports 325 research projects at the best medical centers, universities, and other institutions throughout the United States and abroad, and

Whereas, researchers are increasingly optimistic that a solution to the medical mysteries of MS will be found, and

Whereas, discovering the cause, finding a cure, and preventing future generations from being diagnosed with MS is an important task that all Americans and Vermonters should support, and

Whereas, the General Assembly appreciates the dedication that the National Multiple Sclerosis Society-Greater New England Chapter has displayed in the effort to find a cure for MS, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly designates March 17, 2015 as Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Day in Vermont, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society-Greater New England Chapter.