

A RESOLUTION declaring March, 2016 to be Hemophilia Awareness Month in the Commonwealth.

WHEREAS, hemophilia and related bleeding disorders are genetic conditions affecting thousands of people in the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, hemophilia is characterized by the absence of one of several clotting factors necessary to control bleeding; and

WHEREAS, the standard of care for the treatment of these disorders is to replace the absent clotting factors necessary to control bleeding; 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; and

WHEREAS, repeated bleeding episodes in joints result in chronic degenerative arthritic conditions, which often lead to frequent hospitalizations, permanent disability, and chronic pain; and

WHEREAS, bleeding episodes involving internal organs and the brain can cause permanent damage, disability, and even death; and

WHEREAS, severe bleeding episodes result in lost time at work and school, decreased quality of life, and the inability to perform basic living activities; 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, the Commonwealth of Kentucky is committed to proper care and treatment of children and adults with hemophilia and other related bleeding disorders; and

WHEREAS, hemophilia and other related bleeding disorders and their complications are not well understood by the general public; and

WHEREAS, the House of Representatives encourages efforts to promote the understanding of hemophilia and other related bleeding disorders so that they are treated

properly;

NOW, THEREFORE,

*Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

➔Section 1. This honorable body declares March, 2016 to be Hemophilia Awareness Month in the Commonwealth in honor and recognition of the struggles faced daily by those with hemophilia and other related bleeding disorders, their families and friends, and all of the hard-working advocates for greater education and proper treatment.

➔Section 2. The Clerk of the House of Representatives is directed to transmit a copy of this Resolution to Representative Mike Denham.