

A RESOLUTION recognizing the third Saturday in May as Friedreich's Ataxia Awareness Day.

WHEREAS, Friedreich's Ataxia is an autosomal recessive inherited disease that causes progressive damage to the nervous system resulting in symptoms ranging from muscle weakness and speech problems to heart disease; and

WHEREAS, symptoms usually begin between ages of 5 and 15 years, but can appear as early as 18 months or as late as 30 years of age; and

WHEREAS, within 15 to 20 years after the appearance of the first symptoms, the person is generally confined to a wheelchair, and in the later stages of the disease the person is usually completely incapacitated; and

WHEREAS, Friedreich's Ataxia is the most frequently inherited ataxia and has a prevalence rate of 1 in 50,000 people; and

WHEREAS, ataxia can strike anyone at any time, without regard to age, gender, race, or creed; and

WHEREAS, there is currently no known cure for Friedreich's Ataxia, the only defense is research and prevention through education;

NOW, THEREFORE,

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

➔Section 1. This honorable body hereby recognizes the third Saturday in May as Friedreich's Ataxia Awareness Day.

➔Section 2. The Clerk of the House of Representatives is directed to transmit a copy of this Resolution to Representative Addia Wuchner, Capitol Annex Room 424, for delivery.