

1 A RESOLUTION declaring May 2020 to be Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome Awareness
2 Month.

3 WHEREAS, in 400 BC, the ancient Greek physician Hippocrates first described the
4 symptoms of the medical condition now known as Ehlers-Danlos syndrome, the
5 collective name for 13 genetic connective tissue disorders; and

6 WHEREAS, in 1901, Dr. Edvard Ehlers recognized the syndrome as a distinct
7 medical condition, and in 1908, Dr. Henri-Alexandre Danlos postulated that skin
8 hyperextensibility, which is skin that can be stretched farther than normal, and tissue
9 fragility were its core elements; and

10 WHEREAS, joint hypermobility, or joints that can be stretched farther than normal,
11 is also prominently associated with Ehlers-Danlos syndrome; and

12 WHEREAS, among the types of connective tissue disorders classified as Ehlers-
13 Danlos syndrome are those featuring a predominantly cardiac-valvular, dermatological, or
14 periodontal impact; and

15 WHEREAS, signs and symptoms of Ehlers-Danlos syndrome may become apparent
16 during childhood but depending upon the form and severity, age of diagnosis varies
17 widely; and

18 WHEREAS, estimates for the incidence of all Ehlers-Danlos syndrome types range
19 from 1 per 2,500 to 1 per 5,000 births though some types of Ehlers-Danlos syndrome are
20 much more rare; and

21 WHEREAS, because of its rarity, a correct diagnosis can require many years to
22 obtain, during which the individual might experience extreme physical pain; and

23 WHEREAS, Ehlers-Danlos syndrome disproportionately affects women; and

24 WHEREAS, no cure has been discovered for Ehlers-Danlos syndrome, but once
25 properly diagnosed, its symptoms can usually be managed; and

26 WHEREAS, the Commonwealth seeks to increase awareness about the existence of
27 Ehlers-Danlos syndrome, the importance of a correct and early diagnosis, and the need for

1 treatment to prevent complications;

2 NOW, THEREFORE,

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

5 ➔Section 1. This honorable body hereby declares May 2020 to be Ehlers-Danlos
6 Syndrome Awareness Month.

7 ➔Section 2. The Clerk of the House of Representatives is directed to transmit a
8 copy of this Resolution to Representative Regina Huff.