

1 HJR128  
2 149690-1  
3 By Representatives Williams (D), Butler, Roberts, Baughn,  
4 Greer, Patterson, Nordgren, Johnson (K), Collins, Davis,  
5 McClendon, Sessions, Hammon, Vance and Long  
6 RFD: Rules  
7 First Read: 05-MAR-13

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8 DESIGNATING MARCH OF EACH YEAR AS MULTIPLE SYSTEM  
9 ATROPHY AWARENESS MONTH.

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11 WHEREAS, Multiple System Atrophy (MSA) is a fatal  
12 neurological disease diagnosed in approximately 15,000  
13 patients in the United States; and

14 WHEREAS, as many as 35,000 more patients in the  
15 United States with MSA are misdiagnosed with other more  
16 recognizable neurodegenerative disorders; and

17 WHEREAS, patients with MSA lose the ability to walk,  
18 talk, chew, swallow, and even breathe over the course of a few  
19 years; the occurrence of MSA in the United States has  
20 increased in recent years; and

21 WHEREAS, no specific risk factors or causes of MSA  
22 have been identified, and there is currently no cure for MSA;  
23 the lack of awareness about MSA has hindered research and the  
24 ability of researchers to obtain funding for their work; and

1                   WHEREAS, public support and greater awareness of the  
2                   need for research funding will aid in the discovery of the  
3                   cause of and a cure for MSA; now therefore,

4                   BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
5                   HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we hereby designate March 2013  
6                   and each year thereafter as Multiple System Atrophy Awareness  
7                   Month to increase public awareness of this progressive  
8                   neurodegenerative disorder.