

1 HJR232
2 176594-3
3 By Representative Bracy
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 05-APR-16

1
2 ENGROSSED
3

4 DESIGNATING APRIL 2016 AND THE MONTH OF APRIL EVERY
5 YEAR THEREAFTER AS SARCOIDOSIS AWARENESS MONTH.
6

7 WHEREAS, once thought to be a rare disease,
8 sarcoidosis is now known to affect people of all ages, races,
9 and genders; and

10 WHEREAS, sarcoidosis is an inflammatory disease that
11 can affect almost any organ in the body and causes heightened
12 immunity, a condition that results in overreaction of the
13 immune system, resulting in damage to the body's own tissues;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, the classic feature of sarcoidosis is the
16 formation of granulomas, microscopic clumps of inflammatory
17 cells that group together, interfering with organ function;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, in the United States, sarcoidosis most
20 commonly targets the lungs and lymph nodes, but can also
21 affect the skin, eyes, liver, salivary glands, sinuses,
22 kidneys, heart, the muscles and bones, the brain and the
23 nervous system; and

24 WHEREAS, though the exact cause of sarcoidosis is
25 not known, current research indicates that in individuals who
26 are genetically susceptible to sarcoidosis, exposure to
27 bacteria, viruses or chemicals might trigger the disease; and

1 WHEREAS, while progress has been made in
2 understanding the symptoms and better diagnosing the disease,
3 there is still much to learn about sarcoidosis, but with
4 increased research, the goal of discovering the cause,
5 improving treatment and finding a cure is attainable; now
6 therefore,

7 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
8 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we designate April 2016 and
9 the month of April every year thereafter as Sarcoidosis
10 Awareness Month in recognition of the importance of the
11 ongoing struggle against sarcoidosis and to strongly encourage
12 continued support of research and education efforts and
13 awareness of this disease.

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House of Representatives

Introduced and referred to the
House of Representatives committee
on Rules..... 05-APR-16

Reported from Rules with 1 substi-
tute and..... 07-APR-16

Read for the third time and adopted
as amended..... 07-APR-16

Adopted by Voice Vote

Jeff Woodard
Clerk