

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

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ENROLLED, House Joint Resolution,
DESIGNATING APRIL 2016 AND THE MONTH OF APRIL EVERY
YEAR THEREAFTER AS SARCOIDOSIS AWARENESS MONTH.

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

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

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

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

WHEREAS, though the exact cause of sarcoidosis is
not known, current research indicates that in individuals who

1 are genetically susceptible to sarcoidosis, exposure to
2 bacteria, viruses or chemicals might trigger the disease; and

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

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

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Speaker of the House of Representatives

President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

House of Representatives

I hereby certify that the within Act originated in
and was adopted by the House 07-APR-16, as amended.

Jeff Woodard
Clerk

Senate

04-MAY-16

Adopted