



HR0370

LRB104 13747 MST 26484 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Williams syndrome is a complex genetic disorder
3 that occurs in approximately one out of every 10,000 births
4 and is a commonly known genetic cause of pulmonary stenosis;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Williams syndrome affects males and females with
7 equal frequency and affects all races and ethnicities; and

8 WHEREAS, Williams syndrome can cause improper
9 cardiovascular development, often resulting in cardiac
10 defects, which are the major cause of death for individuals
11 with the syndrome; and

12 WHEREAS, Williams syndrome also causes cognitive and
13 learning disabilities as well as behavioral difficulties, such
14 as attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder and struggles with
15 controlling mood regulation; and

16 WHEREAS, The developmental, medical, and behavioral
17 characteristics of Williams syndrome cause many affected
18 individuals to require constant and lifelong supervision; and

19 WHEREAS, Studies have shown that there is a high cardiac
20 morbidity rate for individuals with Williams syndrome; and

1 WHEREAS, There is no known cure for Williams syndrome; and

2 WHEREAS, Early diagnosis of Williams syndrome allows
3 families to access treatment, assistive services, therapies,
4 and support from health professionals, advocacy organizations,
5 and other families who have loved ones with the syndrome; and

6 WHEREAS, While beneficial programs, such as therapies and
7 social training, are improving the quality of life for
8 individuals with the syndrome and offer new hope to families,
9 many difficult symptoms associated with Williams syndrome
10 remain untreated; and

11 WHEREAS, Increased research into Williams syndrome can
12 lead to a better understanding of the disorder, more effective
13 treatments, and an eventual cure for Williams syndrome, and in
14 a time where research is under threat, the importance of
15 medical research is greater than ever; and

16 WHEREAS, More funding, attention, and research toward
17 Williams syndrome will likely improve our understanding of
18 common public perceptions of genetic disorders, including
19 intellectual disabilities and physical differences; and

20 WHEREAS, Advocacy organizations have designated May as

1 National Williams Syndrome Awareness Month; therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
3 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
4 we declare May 2025 and May 2026 as Williams Syndrome
5 Awareness Month in Illinois.