



HR0542

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Epilepsy, a chronic disorder that is  
3 characterized by unprovoked and recurring seizures, is the  
4 fourth most common neurological disorder and affects people of  
5 all ages; and

6 WHEREAS, Approximately one in 26 people will develop  
7 epilepsy at some point in their life; according to an August  
8 2017 study from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention,  
9 at least 3.4 million people in the U.S. live with seizures,  
10 including 470,000 children; and

11 WHEREAS, The cause of epilepsy is unknown in half of those  
12 who will develop the disease; genetic testing, which could help  
13 identify the cause of epilepsy in some cases, is not yet  
14 available for many types of epilepsy; and

15 WHEREAS, Despite its prevalence, epilepsy is one of the  
16 least understood major, chronic medical conditions; and

17 WHEREAS, More people have epilepsy than cerebral palsy,  
18 multiple sclerosis, and Parkinson's disease combined; epilepsy  
19 most commonly affects the very young and very old; and

20 WHEREAS, The mortality rate of those with epilepsy is up to

1 three times higher than the rate of the general population; and

2 WHEREAS, Epilepsy has a strong association with  
3 depression; more than one of every three persons with epilepsy  
4 will develop a mood disorder; and

5 WHEREAS, Thirty to 40% of those with epilepsy have seizures  
6 that will not respond to treatment or have medication that does  
7 not work well enough; and

8 WHEREAS, Epilepsy costs the nation \$15.5 billion dollars in  
9 health care costs and losses in employment, wages, and  
10 productivity; therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
12 HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
13 we recognize November as being National Epilepsy Awareness  
14 Month and urge all to be aware of and become better educated  
15 about epilepsy.