

Substitute for House Resolution No. 35.

A resolution to declare March 2015 as Multiple Myeloma Awareness Month in the state of Michigan.

Whereas, Multiple myeloma, the second most common blood cancer worldwide, is a cancer of plasma cells in the bone marrow and can occur at multiple sites; and

Whereas, Multiple myeloma currently affects 1 in 143 people in the United States, with an estimated 26,850 new cases diagnosed each year and 11,240 losing their battle each year; and

Whereas, Once a disease of the elderly, it is now being found in increasing numbers in people under 65; and

Whereas, Because myeloma is not a common disease, there can be a delayed diagnosis, leading to delayed treatment. For this reason, an increased awareness of myeloma for clinicians and the general public will lead to earlier diagnosis, allowing people to live longer; and

Whereas, Continued investment and innovation is critical to achieve early diagnosis and implement the most effective and safest treatments for myeloma patients; and

Whereas, Although we have seen important advances in the last decade, there is still no cure for myeloma; and

Whereas, The people of the state of Michigan wish to find a cure for myeloma and support the treatment of its citizens that suffer from myeloma and encourages private efforts to enhance research funding and education programs; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of this legislative body declare March 2015 as Multiple Myeloma Awareness Month in the state of Michigan. We encourage all citizens to participate in voluntary activities to support multiple myeloma education and the funding of research programs to find a cure.