

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 164

Rep. Vaupel offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to declare September 22-28, 2019, as Fetal
2 Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Awareness Week in the state of Michigan.

3 Whereas, Healthy children are the most important resource in
4 the great state of Michigan and Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders
5 (FASD) pose a serious threat to the potential health of our future
6 generations; and

7 Whereas, More than 30 years have passed since Fetal Alcohol
8 Syndrome (FAS) was identified and named as a birth disorder by
9 United States researchers; and

10 Whereas, Prenatal exposure to alcohol can cause birth defects,
11 mental disorders, learning disabilities, and attention deficits;
12 and



1 Whereas, The estimated number of FASD per year is over 30,000.
2 The incidence rate of full FAS is estimated at 1 out of every 1,000
3 live births and the incidence rate of FASD is estimated at 1 out of
4 every 100 live births; and

5 Whereas, The U.S. Surgeon General states that there is no safe
6 amount of alcohol to consume during pregnancy and Fetal Alcohol
7 Spectrum Disorders can only be prevented by avoiding alcohol
8 entirely during pregnancy; and

9 Whereas, Individuals with FASD often have secondary hardships
10 such as trouble with the law, substance abuse issues, disrupted
11 school experiences, employment problems, and homelessness; and

12 Whereas, FASD is entirely preventable; and

13 Whereas, People around the world began observing International
14 FAS Awareness Day on September 9 of each year beginning in 1999 in
15 order that on the ninth day of the ninth month of the year the
16 world will remember that a woman should abstain from alcohol during
17 the nine months of pregnancy. Starting in 2015, the month of
18 September was recognized as Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Month;
19 now, therefore, be it

20 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of
21 this legislative body declare September 22-28, 2019, as Fetal
22 Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Awareness Week in the state of Michigan.
23 We strongly urge all citizens to increase their knowledge of the
24 effects of prenatal exposure to alcohol, to increase their level of
25 compassion for individuals affected by FASD, and to do all which
26 may lie in their power to reduce the incidence of FASD in the state
27 of Michigan in the future.