

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 225

Reps. MacDonell, Brabec, Haadsma, Hill, Rheingans, Rogers, Weiss and Young offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to declare April 2024 as Sjogren's Syndrome
2 Awareness Month in the state of Michigan.

3 Whereas, Sjogren's syndrome is a systemic autoimmune disease
4 that affects the whole body. While its most common symptoms are dry
5 eyes and dry mouth, its symptoms can also include profound fatigue,
6 chronic pain, and neuropathies; and

7 Whereas, Primary Sjogren's means someone has only the
8 syndrome. Secondary Sjogren's occurs as a comorbidity with other
9 immune disorders such as systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE),
10 rheumatoid arthritis (RA), or scleroderma; and

11 Whereas, Sjogren's can cause dry eyes, dry mouth, cavities,

1 chronic oral thrush, and other symptoms; and

2 Whereas, Four million Americans have Sjogren's. The condition
3 can be challenging for both patients and physicians. Since most of
4 its symptoms are invisible, many people living with Sjogren's
5 report that their experiences with the syndrome are written off as
6 fictitious. Early diagnosis and treatment are key to preventing
7 severe complications, so Sjogren's and its symptoms should be taken
8 seriously; and

9 Whereas, Interest in the syndrome among federal legislators
10 has prompted an effort to secure federal funding for research on
11 the causes of Sjogren's syndrome and possible treatments; and

12 Whereas, Michiganders living with Sjogren's or others
13 interested in learning more about the syndrome can contact the
14 Sjogren's Foundation to learn more; now, therefore, be it

15 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of
16 this legislative body declare April 2024 as Sjogren's Syndrome
17 Awareness Month in the state of Michigan.