

House Concurrent Resolution No. 21

95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES SCAVUZZO (Sponsor), YAEGER, CHAPPELLE-NADAL,
WALTON GRAY, HARRIS AND TALBOY (Co-sponsors).

3960L.011

2 **Whereas**, hydrocephalus is a serious neurological condition, characterized by the
3 abnormal build up of cerebrospinal fluids in the ventricles of the brain; and
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5 **Whereas**, there is no known cure for hydrocephalus, which effects an estimated
6 one million Americans; and
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8 **Whereas**, one or two in every one thousand babies are born with hydrocephalus;
9 and
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11 **Whereas**, over 375,000 older Americans have hydrocephalus which often goes
12 undetected or misdiagnosed as dementia, Alzheimer's disease, or Parkinson's disease; and
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14 **Whereas**, with appropriate diagnosis and treatment, people with hydrocephalus are
15 able to live full and productive lives; and
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17 **Whereas**, the standard treatment for hydrocephalus was developed in 1953 and
18 carries multiple risks, including shunt failure, infection, and over drainage; and
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20 **Whereas**, there are fewer than ten centers in the United States specializing in the
21 treatment of adults with normal pressure hydrocephalus; and
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23 **Whereas**, each year the people of the United States spend in excess of one million
24 dollars to treat hydrocephalus; and
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26 **Whereas**, the Hydrocephalus Association is one of the nation's oldest and largest
27 patient and research advocacy and support network for individuals suffering from hydrocephalus;
28 and
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30 **Whereas**, further research into the epidemiology, pathology, disease burden, and
31 improved treatment of hydrocephalus should be conducted and supported; and
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33 **Whereas**, public awareness and professional education regarding hydrocephalus
34 should increase through partnership between the local, state, and federal governments and patient
35 advocacy organizations, such as the Hydrocephalus Association:
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37 **Now, therefore, be it resolved** that the members of the House of
38 Representatives of the Ninety-fifth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the Senate
39 concurring therein, hereby recognize the month of March 2010 as "Hydrocephalus Awareness
40 Month" in Missouri so that Missourians can become more familiar with hydrocephalus and the
41 individuals dedicated to finding its cure; and
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43 **Be it further resolved** that the Missouri General Assembly urges the federal
44 government to collect comprehensive statistics and data regarding the seriousness of
45 hydrcephalus and its impact on American families.