

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO.2003-4638, by Representatives Sehlin, Quall, McDonald, Ericksen, Haigh, Grant, Kessler, Alexander, Hinkle, Hunt, Kristiansen, Newhouse, Jarrett, Schindler, Upthegrove, Santos, Crouse, Woods, Talcott, Cox, Buck, Delvin, Schoesler, Flannigan, Priest, Orcutt, Linville, Morris, Nixon, Carrell, Mielke, Rockefeller, Pearson, Veloria, Condotta, McMahan, Sullivan, Tom, Bailey, Clements, Skinner, McCoy, Kagi, Hudgins, Pettigrew, Hunter, Miloscia, Simpson, Lantz, Cody, Lovick, Eickmeyer, Darneille, McDermott, O'Brien, Kirby, Sommers, Chase, Ruderman, Wallace, McIntire, Conway, Kenney, Gombosky, Berkey and Fromhold

WHEREAS, Washington State is recognized throughout the nation for its eminent resources in biomedical science; and

WHEREAS, Medical specialists in this state have been credited with singular discoveries in diverse health conditions, contributing to worldwide knowledge about symptoms and treatment; and

WHEREAS, Although citizen awareness about these major illnesses has become widespread, there are still a number of lesser threats to health about which very little is known; and

WHEREAS, Myositis, a rare, chronic, and progressive condition for which there is no known cure, is one of these latter "orphan diseases" which is still little recognized, with only 135 patients identified in 27 of Washington's 39 counties and approximately 50,000 active cases nationwide; and

WHEREAS, The puzzling symptoms of Myositis in its four related forms include difficulty in swallowing or breathing, excessive fatigue after standing or walking, increasing inability to lift or raise one's arms overhead, and general weakness of skeletal muscles; and

WHEREAS, Patients have banded together in The Myositis Association with the help of their doctors and health researchers to serve as a resource promoting research into the causes and treatments of Myositis, as well as providing patient support and otherwise enhancing the quality of life for those afflicted; and

WHEREAS, The Washington Myositis Group is committed to a concerted effort by The Myositis Association to recognize a national Myositis Awareness Day;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the State of Washington encourage the citizens of Washington State to acknowledge Myositis Awareness Day, and to participate in helping educate the public and identifying and assisting patients of the disease.

I hereby certify this to be a true and correct copy of
Resolution 4638 adopted by the House of Representatives
March 17, 2003

Cynthia Zehnder, Chief Clerk