HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 4674, by Representative Sullivan

WHEREAS, Arthritis encompasses more than 100 diseases and conditions that affect the joints, tissues surrounding the joints, and other organs; and

WHEREAS, The most common forms of arthritis include osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, fibromyalgia, gout, psoriatic arthritis, and lupus; and

WHEREAS, Over 50 million American adults, including 1.3 million in Washington, live with the pain and limitations of some form of the disease; and

WHEREAS, Nearly 300,000 American children, including 6,100 children in Washington, live with arthritis; and

WHEREAS, Arthritis is our nation's leading cause of disability and a principal driver of health care costs; and

WHEREAS, Early diagnosis and appropriate management can help people with arthritis decrease pain, improve function, stay productive, and lower health care costs; and

WHEREAS, The federal government recognizes May as Arthritis Awareness Month;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That Arthritis Awareness Month is an opportunity to increase awareness of the disease and recognize the importance of seeking appropriate treatment to minimize its disabling impact on daily lives.

I hereby certify this to be a true and correct copy of Resolution 4674 adopted by the House of Representatives February 23, 2012

Barbara Baker, Chief Clerk