

Introduced by Senator Fuller

April 22, 2015

Senate Resolution No. 23—Relative to Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia Awareness Month.

1 WHEREAS, Congenital diaphragmatic hernia (CDH) occurs
2 when the diaphragm fails to fully form, allowing abdominal organs
3 to migrate into the chest cavity and preventing lung growth; and
4 WHEREAS, The federal Centers for Disease Control and
5 Prevention recognizes CDH as a birth defect; and
6 WHEREAS, The majority of CDH patients suffer from
7 underdeveloped lungs or poor pulmonary function; and
8 WHEREAS, Babies born with CDH endure extended hospital
9 stays in intensive care with multiple surgeries; and
10 WHEREAS, CDH patients often endure long-term
11 complications, such as pulmonary hypertension, pulmonary
12 hypoplasia, asthma, gastrointestinal reflux, feeding disorders, and
13 developmental delays; and
14 WHEREAS, CDH survivors sometimes endure long-term
15 mechanical ventilation dependency, skeletal malformations,
16 supplemental oxygen dependency, enteral and parenteral nutrition,
17 and hypoxic brain injury; and
18 WHEREAS, CDH is treated through mechanical ventilation, a
19 heart and lung bypass, which is commonly known as extracorporeal
20 membrane oxygenation (ECMO), machines, and surgical repair;
21 and
22 WHEREAS, Surgical repair is often not a permanent solution
23 for CDH and can lead to reherniation and require additional
24 surgery; and

1 WHEREAS, CDH is diagnosed in utero in less than 50 percent
2 of cases; and

3 WHEREAS, Infants born with CDH have a high mortality rate,
4 averaging 50 percent, regardless of the level of severity of the
5 defect; and

6 WHEREAS, CDH has a rate of occurrence of 1 in every 2,500
7 live births worldwide; and

8 WHEREAS, CDH affects approximately 1,600 babies each year
9 in the United States; and

10 WHEREAS, CDH has affected more than 700,000 babies
11 worldwide since 2000; and

12 WHEREAS, CDH does not discriminate based on race, gender,
13 or socioeconomic status; and

14 WHEREAS, The cause of CDH is unknown; now, therefore,
15 be it

16 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California*, That the Senate
17 declares the month of April 2015 as California Congenital
18 Diaphragmatic Hernia Awareness Month, and calls upon all
19 Californians to observe the month of April by participating in
20 appropriate activities and programs; and be it further

21 *Resolved*, That the Senate encourages that steps should be taken
22 to: (1) raise awareness of and increase public knowledge about
23 CDH; (2) inform all Californians about the dangers of CDH,
24 especially those groups that may be disproportionately affected
25 by CDH or that have lower survival rates; (3) disseminate
26 information on the importance of quality neonatal care of CDH
27 patients; (4) promote quality prenatal care and ultrasounds to detect
28 CDH in utero; and (5) support research funding of CDH to improve
29 screening and treatment for CDH, discover the causes of CDH,
30 and develop a cure for CDH; and be it further

31 *Resolved*, That the Senate encourages residents, interest groups,
32 and affected individuals to take an active role in the fight against
33 this devastating birth defect; and be it further

34 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate provide copies of
35 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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