

103D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. J. RES. 220

JOINT RESOLUTION

To designate the month of August as “National Scleroderma Awareness Month”, and for other purposes.

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Whereas scleroderma is a disease caused by the excess production of collagen, the main fibrous component of connective tissue, causing hardening of the skin or internal organs, or both, such as the esophagus, lungs, kidney, and heart;

Whereas approximately 300,000 people in the United States suffer from scleroderma, with women of childbearing age outnumbering men 4 to 1;

Whereas scleroderma, a painful, crippling, and disfiguring disease, is most often progressive and can result in premature death;

Whereas the symptoms of scleroderma are variable which can complicate and confuse diagnosis;

Whereas the cause and cure of scleroderma are unknown; and

Whereas scleroderma is an orphan disease that requires intensive research to improve treatment as well as find the cause and cure: Now, therefore, be it

- 1 *Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives*
- 2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
- 3 That the months of August 1993 and August 1994 are
- 4 designated as “National Scleroderma Awareness Month”.
- 5 The President is authorized and requested to issue a proc-
- 6 lamation calling on the people of the United States to ob-
- 7 serve each such month with appropriate activities that will
- 8 enhance awareness of the disease and the need for a cure.

Passed the House of Representatives August 5,
1993.

Attest:

Clerk.