



HR0466

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Jonathan Alexander Wilkins was born with a severe
3 case of Hirschsprung's disease; he had an obstructed colon and
4 was unable to have a bowel movement; in his 2 years of life he
5 underwent 4 major surgeries but lost his battle to live 2
6 months after his last surgery; and

7 WHEREAS, Hirschsprung's Disease is a rare congenital
8 (present at birth) abnormality that results in obstruction
9 because the intestines do not work normally; it is most often
10 found in males; it is commonly found in Down Syndrome children;
11 it can be life-threatening or a chronic disorder; the
12 inadequate motility is a result of an aganglionic (without
13 nerve tissue) section of the intestines resulting in megacolon
14 (dilated section of colon); and

15 WHEREAS, In a newborn, the chief signs and symptoms are
16 failure to pass a meconium stool within 24-48 hours after
17 birth, reluctance to eat, bile-stained (green) vomiting, and
18 abdominal distension; during infancy the child has difficulty
19 gaining weight, constipation, abdominal distension, episodes
20 of diarrhea and vomiting; explosive watery diarrhea, fever, and
21 exhaustion are signs of enterocolitis (inflammation of the
22 colon) and are considered serious and life-threatening; and

1 WHEREAS, Doctors don't know what causes the disease, but it
2 tends to run in families; it may also be linked to other
3 medical problems, such as Down syndrome and congenital heart
4 disease; and

5 WHEREAS, Children with Hirschsprung's disease need surgery
6 to remove the diseased part of the large intestine; surgery is
7 often done within the first days or month of life, soon after
8 the disease is found; children with Hirschsprung's disease need
9 1 or 2 surgeries; therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
11 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
12 we designate September 25th as Hirschsprung Disease Awareness
13 Day in the State of Illinois in memory of Jonathan Alexander
14 Wilkins; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
16 delivered to the family of Jonathan Alexander Wilkins as a
17 symbol of our respect and esteem.