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1

HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, Fragile X-associated Disorders (FXD) are a family  
3 of genetic conditions that can affect individuals in a variety  
4 of ways; the conditions are all caused by changes in the FMR  
5 gene; and

6           WHEREAS, Fragile X Syndrome (FXS) is the most common cause  
7 of inherited intellectual disability and the most common known  
8 genetic cause of autism or autism spectrum disorders, affecting  
9 people of every race, income level, and nationality; and

10           WHEREAS, Fragile X-associated Tremor/Ataxia Syndrome  
11 (FXTAS) is an adult-onset condition, occurring more commonly in  
12 males than females, that causes tremor and affects balance and  
13 memory in some "carriers" of the Fragile X gene and is often  
14 mistaken for Parkinson's, Alzheimer's, and other conditions;  
15 and

16           WHEREAS, Fragile X-associated Primary Ovarian  
17 Insufficiency (FXPOI) is a condition of decreased ovarian  
18 function that can lead to reduced fertility or infertility,  
19 irregular or absent menstrual periods, and early menopause in  
20 some female "carriers" of the Fragile X gene; and

21           WHEREAS, Over one-million Americans are carriers of a

1 Fragile X mutation and thus have, or are at risk for  
2 developing, a Fragile X-associated Disorder (FXD) and over  
3 100,000 Americans have Fragile X Syndrome; and

4 WHEREAS, Fragile X remains frequently undetected due to its  
5 recent discovery and the lack of awareness about the syndrome,  
6 even within the medical community; and

7 WHEREAS, The genetic defect causing Fragile X has been  
8 discovered and is easily identified by DNA testing; and

9 WHEREAS, Fragile X is a powerful research model for  
10 neuropsychiatric disorders, such as autism, schizophrenia,  
11 pervasive developmental disorders, and other conditions  
12 including Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, reproductive problems in  
13 women, and other medical conditions that may have a genetic  
14 basis; and

15 WHEREAS, With concerted research efforts, a cure for  
16 Fragile X Syndrome and associated disorders may be developed;  
17 and

18 WHEREAS, Fragile X research, both basic and applied, has  
19 been vastly underfunded despite the prevalence of the disorder,  
20 the potential for development of a cure, the established  
21 benefits of available treatments and intervention, and the

1 significance that Fragile X research has for related disorders;  
2 and

3 WHEREAS, The Illinois General Assembly as an institution  
4 and members of the General Assembly as individuals are in  
5 unique positions to help raise public awareness about the need  
6 for increased funding for research and early diagnosis and  
7 treatment for the disorder known as Fragile X; therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
9 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, That  
10 we declare July 22 of each year to be Fragile X Awareness Day;  
11 and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
13 presented to the central Illinois Fragile X resource group that  
14 represents the National Fragile X Foundation.