

Reps. Tlaib, Hovey-Wright, Slavens, Constan, Switalski, Brown, Jackson, Santana, Barnett, Smiley, Brunner, Roy Schmidt, Stanley, Kandrevas, McCann, Talabi, Durhal, Darany, Goike, Knollenberg, Liss and Segal offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 225.

A resolution to declare April 27, 2012, as Viral Hepatitis Awareness Day in the state of Michigan.

Whereas, Liver cancer and liver disease related to hepatitis B and hepatitis C are among the leading killers in Michigan; and

Whereas, Hepatitis C is the most prevalent blood borne disease in the United States; and

Whereas, Early detection of hepatitis B or hepatitis C infection promotes effective management or treatment of these infections, preventing disability, loss of productivity and income, and allows persons to live full, satisfying, and productive lives; and

Whereas, Undetected and untreated hepatitis B or hepatitis C infection can lead to disability or death; and

Whereas, The majority of Michigan residents with chronic hepatitis B or C infection do not know they are infected and are therefore at high risk of severe liver disease, liver cancer, or liver failure; and

Whereas, Untreated hepatitis B and hepatitis C are leading causes of liver failure requiring a liver transplant; and

Whereas, There is a vaccine for the prevention of hepatitis B, the first proven low-cost vaccination against any form of cancer made available to Americans; and

Whereas, Hepatitis awareness education campaigns and accessible screening for hepatitis B and hepatitis C along with appropriate treatment can reduce the damage from hepatitis B and hepatitis C viral infection to individuals and to our community; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of this legislative body declare April 27, 2012, as Viral Hepatitis Awareness Day in the state of Michigan.