

Reps. Alexander, Love, Clemente, Faris, Howrylak, Hughes, Jones, Kahle, Liberati, Maturen, Sabo, Sneller and Wittenberg offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 209.

A resolution to declare December 1-7, 2017, as Crohn's and Colitis Awareness Week in the state of Michigan.

Whereas, Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis are serious chronic inflammatory diseases of the gastrointestinal tract; and

Whereas, Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis, collectively known as inflammatory bowel disease, afflict approximately 1,600,000 people in the United States, 30 percent of whom are diagnosed as children; and

Whereas, The cause of Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis are unknown and no medical cure exists; and

Whereas, Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis can affect anyone at any age and is being diagnosed with increased frequency in children;

Whereas, Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis patients have an increased risk for developing colorectal cancer; and

Whereas, The annual direct cost of Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis in the United States is estimated to be \$5.2 billion; and

Whereas, The goals of Crohn's and Colitis Awareness Week are to invite and encourage all people in Michigan to join the effort to find a cure for Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis, to engage in activities aimed at raising awareness of Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis among the general public and health care providers, and to promote and support biomedical research needed to find better treatments and a cure for Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of this legislative body declare December 1-7, 2017, as Crohn's and Colitis Awareness Week in the state of Michigan. We salute the work of the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation Michigan Chapter for its work to cure Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis, to improve the quality of life of children and adults affected by these diseases, and to raise awareness by offering a range of educational programs for patients and healthcare professionals; and be it further

Resolved, That we recognize all people in the United States living with Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis and expresses appreciation to the family members and caregivers who support them. We commend the dedication of health care professionals and biomedical researchers who care for Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis patients and work to advance basic, genetic, and clinical research aimed at developing new treatments and a cure for Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis.