



H.CON.RES. 299 – SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL CYSTIC FIBROSIS AWARENESS MONTH

FLOOR SITUATION

H.Con.Res. 299 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Edward Markey (D-MA) on February 14, 2008. The resolution was referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, but was never considered.

H.Con.Res. 299 is expected to be considered on the floor of the House on July 15, 2008.

SUMMARY

H.Con.Res. 299 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- Honors the goals and ideals of National Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Month;
- Promotes further public awareness and understanding of cystic fibrosis;
- Advocates for increased support for people with cystic fibrosis and their families;
- Encourages early diagnosis and access to high-quality care for people with cystic fibrosis to improve the quality of their lives; and
- Supports research to find a cure for cystic fibrosis by fostering an enhanced research program through a strong Federal commitment and expanded public-private partnerships.

BACKGROUND

According to the National Institutes of Health, cystic fibrosis is an inherited disease affecting mucus and sweat glands. Normally, mucus is watery and keeps the lining of certain organs moist and protected from infection. Cystic fibrosis causes this mucus to become thick and sticky, blocking the airflow to organs which eventually leads to the growth of bacteria and infection. The effects of the disease most heavily impact the lungs, pancreas, liver, intestines, sinuses, and sex organs. The disease also causes perspiration to be abnormally salty, causing the body to lose large amounts of salt. This salt loss leads to an upset of mineral balance in the blood. There is no known cure for cystic fibrosis today.

The [Cystic Fibrosis Foundation](#) reports that about 70,000 children and adults suffer from cystic fibrosis world wide, with roughly 30,000 of those affected living in the United States. Few children suffering from the disease in the 1950s survived to attend elementary school, however, advances in medicine have extended the life expectancy for those suffering from cystic fibrosis into their 30s and 40s, and beyond.

STAFF CONTACT

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