

RESOLUTION NO. RS2018-1219

A resolution recognizing May 2018 as Lupus Awareness Month.

WHEREAS, more than five million people worldwide suffer from the devastating effects of Lupus, and each year another 100,000 men, women and children will be diagnosed with this disease; and it is 2-3 times more prevalent among people of color, including African-Americans, Hispanics, Asians, and Native-Americans; and

WHEREAS, Lupus is a chronic autoimmune disease that causes inflammation of various parts of the body, particularly the skin, heart, joints and kidneys; and

WHEREAS, people with lupus can experience significant symptoms such as pain, extreme fatigue, hair loss, cognitive issues, and physical impairments that affect every facet of their lives; and

WHEREAS, the aim of Lupus Awareness Month is to raise awareness and educate others about this life changing disease; and

WHEREAS, research shows that 1.5 million Americans have been diagnosed with Lupus, which affects women about nine times more frequently than it does men; and

WHEREAS, while Lupus is not infectious, rare or cancerous, it affects more people than cerebral palsy, multiple sclerosis, sickle cell anemia, and cystic fibrosis combined; and

WHEREAS, although Lupus ranges from mild to life threatening, and thousands of Americans who have Lupus die each year, the majority of cases can be managed with proper treatment; and

WHEREAS, Lupus impacts more than just the life of the patient; it affects the patient's family, friends, coworkers, employers and community; and

WHEREAS, research shows that a staggering two-thirds of the public knows little or nothing about lupus; and

WHEREAS, existing public information and programs about Lupus remain inadequately disseminated and insufficient in addressing the needs of specific diverse populations and other underserved groups; and

WHEREAS, May 18, 2018 is "Put On Purple Day" and people are encouraged to wear purple to help raise awareness about lupus, and show support for those who suffer from its brutal impact; and

WHEREAS, early diagnosis and proper treatment are critical to improving the quality of life and survival rate of Lupus sufferers, and increased public awareness, education, and research are the key to winning the battle against Lupus; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting and proper that the Metropolitan Council recognizes May 2018 as Lupus Awareness Month and encourages all citizens of Nashville to become more educated and informed about Lupus.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY:

Section 1. The Metropolitan Council hereby goes on record as recognizing May 2018 as Lupus Awareness Month.

Section 2. This Resolution shall take effect from and after its adoption, the welfare of The Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County requiring it.

INTRODUCED BY:

Ed Kindall
Member of Council