January 26, 2018

SENATOR DEBORAH STABENOW
D- Michigan

Dear Senator Stabenow:

The National Leiomyosarcoma Foundation (N L M S F) is honored to have the opportunity to submit our request for 2018 support for Congressional consideration of the following Resolution:

National Sarcoma Awareness Month – July, 2018

National Leiomyosarcoma Awareness Day - July 15, 2018

The Resolution is included with this letter, along with brief background information pertaining to Sarcoma and Leiomyosarcoma, with statistics included as well.

We have, and continue to be most grateful to you for championing the Resolution as you did in 2016 with celebrated success for National Leiomyosarcoma Awareness Day - July 15, 2016, with Congressman Sandy Levin (D-Michigan) joining you in co-sponsorship.

Having brought the combined Resolution for a National Sarcoma Awareness Month – for July, 2017 and the National Leiomyosarcoma Awareness Day - for July 15, 2017, at the Good Morning Michigan coffee was wonderful – to be able to shake your hand and express my deep appreciation for your efforts to support the Resolution for 2017.

This year, we reached out Senator Cory Gardner. His regional director indicated that he would support the bill once introduced again for 2018. Senator Tillis, (R-NC) has also been contacted for support.

We are asking for attendees at the Rare Disease on Capitol Hill to include this request when they meet with their state representatives on Lobby Day as well, indicating that you are still our Champion of Hope and always the Leader in representing this rare cancer.

Senators Orin Hatch and Leonard Lance have also been contacte, as they are involved in the Rare Cancer Caucus, for hopeful reach-out to you for co-sponsorship. I hope that there can be follow-up to the contacts made through your office, for hopeful success in establishing bipartisan support to introduce the Bill once again for 2018.

Success is imperative to spotlight this rare cancer on a national level, to build awareness, support, and the much needed finding ultimately. Common cancers have this success.
Again, the Foundation is most grateful for being the Champion of Hope for rare cancer-SARCOMA and Leiomyosarcoma.

Respectfully submitted,

Annie Achee
National Leiomyosarcoma Foundation
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303 783-0924   303 808-3437
114TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION  
S. RES.  

Supporting the designation of July 15, 2016, as “Leiomyosarcoma Awareness Day”.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Ms. STABENOW submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on ____________________

RESOLUTION

Supporting the designation of July 15, 2016, as “Leiomyosarcoma Awareness Day”.

Whereas a soft tissue sarcoma is a rare type of cancer, accounting for approximately 1 percent of newly diagnosed cancers;

Whereas Leiomyosarcoma (referred to in this preamble as “LMS”) is a malignant subtype of soft tissue sarcoma that originates in smooth muscle, often in the walls of blood vessels;

Whereas LMS is highly aggressive and can be found throughout the body, but is especially concentrated in the uterus, abdominal cavity, and extremities;

Whereas the National Institutes of Health classifies LMS as a rare disease;
Senator Knollenberg offered the following resolution:

**Senate Resolution No. 188.**

A resolution to commemorate July 15, 2016, as Leiomyosarcoma Awareness Day.

Whereas, Leiomyosarcoma (LMS) is one of the forms of a very rare and aggressive cancer, or sarcoma, that originates in the smooth or involuntary muscle tissue; and

Whereas, LMS affects only 6 out of every 1 million people, but is highly aggressive and likely to infect other areas of the body, including the lungs, liver, or lymph nodes; and

Whereas, As a soft tissue sarcoma, LMS is highly resistant to many chemotherapeutic agents and radiation treatments; and

Whereas, Most LMS patients choose to be cared for by a multidisciplinary team of health professionals, and it is extremely important to get help with this rare form of cancer from a sarcoma center which sees a large number of leiomyosarcoma patients; and

Whereas, Many local oncologists rarely see more than one or two cases of LMS in their entire career, and most sarcoma centers will work with local oncologists to help make the best choices for patient care; and

Whereas, We hereby recognize and express our gratitude to the individuals, families, friends, and caregivers dealing with LMS, as well as the doctors and researchers who are seeking a cause or cure; and

Whereas, The state of Michigan recognizes the efforts of the Leiomyosarcoma Direct Research Foundation and the National Leiomyosarcoma Foundation to assure the development of the means to cure and control LMS and to improve the quality of life for those with this disease until the cure is found; and

Whereas, Michigan residents are encouraged to tweet, post, and share their stories and images using the #lmsarcoma hashtag on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and other social media platforms; and

Whereas, Leiomyosarcoma Awareness Day helps educate communities about LMS cancer and increases the awareness that surrounds it. The importance of education and knowledge about the disease cannot be overstated and contributes to the ability to lead a healthy, balanced, and productive life; and
Whereas, The Michigan Legislature is strongly dedicated to preserving the health of the residents of this state and in supporting the fight against leiomyosarcoma; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That the members of this legislative body hereby commemorate July 15, 2016, Leiomyosarcoma Awareness Day in the state of Michigan. We encourage increased public awareness and promotion of treatment and recovery.
Whereas most oncologists will only see a few cases of LMS throughout a career;

Whereas the causes of LMS are still unknown;

Whereas LMS is largely resistant to standard chemotherapeutic agents, radiation treatment, and current immunotherapies;

Whereas multidisciplinary care coordination teams, because of their expertise and experience, are critical to the health of LMS patients;

Whereas LMS research will allow medical professionals to improve the quality of care for LMS patients, lead to better clinical outcomes, and promote longer survival for LMS patients; and

Whereas increased education and awareness about LMS will contribute to the well-being of the communities of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of July 15, 2016, as "Leiomyosarcoma Awareness Day";

(2) recognizes the challenges faced by Leiomyosarcoma patients; and

(3) commends the dedication of organizations, volunteers, researchers, and caregivers across the country working to improve the quality of life of Leiomyosarcoma patients and the families of Leiomyosarcoma patients.
Reps. Wittenberg, Canfield, Chirkun, Cochran, Faris, Greig, Heise, Howrylak, Hughes, Kelly, LaVoy, Maturen, Phelps, Plawecki, Price and Singh offered the following resolution:

**House Resolution No. 313.**

A resolution to declare July 15, 2016, as Leiomyosarcoma Awareness Day in the state of Michigan.

Whereas, Leiomyosarcoma (LMS) is one of the forms of a very rare and aggressive cancer called Sarcoma that originates in the smooth or involuntary muscle tissue; and

Whereas, LMS affects only 6 out of every 1 million people, but is highly aggressive and likely to infect other areas of the body, including the lungs, liver, or lymph nodes; and

Whereas, As a soft tissue, sarcoma is highly resistant to many chemotherapeutic agents and radiation treatments; and

Whereas, Most LMS patients choose to be cared for by a multidisciplinary team of health professionals and it is extremely important to get help with this rare form of cancer from a sarcoma center which sees a large number of Leiomyosarcoma patients; and

Whereas, Many local oncologists rarely see more than one or two cases of LMS in their entire career and most sarcoma centers will work with local oncologists in trying to help make the best choices for patient care; and

Whereas, Michigan residents are encouraged to tweet, post, and share their stories and images using the #Lmsarcoma hashtag on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and other social media platforms; and

Whereas, Leiomyosarcoma Awareness Day helps educate communities about LMS cancer and increases the awareness that surrounds it. The importance of education and knowledge about the disease cannot be overstated and contributes to the ability to lead a healthy, balanced, and productive life; and

Whereas, The Michigan Legislature is strongly dedicated to preserving the health of the residents of this state and in supporting the fight against Leiomyosarcoma cancer; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of this legislative body declare July 15, 2016, Leiomyosarcoma Awareness Day in the state of Michigan. We encourage increased public awareness and promotion of treatment and recovery; and be it further

Resolved, That we hereby recognize and express our gratitude to the individuals, families, friends, and caregivers dealing with LMS, as well as the doctors and researchers who are seeking a cause or cure, and laud the efforts of the Leiomyosarcoma Direct Research Foundation and the National Leiomyosarcoma Foundation to assure the development of the means to cure and control LMS and to improve the quality of life for those with this disease until the cure is found.