

## 115TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION H. RES. 167

Supporting the designation of the week of February 26 to March 4, 2017, as "National Spinal CSF Leak Awareness Week".

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

March 2, 2017

Mr. Cartwright (for himself and Ms. Norton) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

## RESOLUTION

Supporting the designation of the week of February 26 to March 4, 2017, as "National Spinal CSF Leak Awareness Week".

- Whereas spinal cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) leak, also known as intracranial hypotension, is an important, disabling, underdiagnosed but treatable cause of new onset headache;
- Whereas cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) bathes and supports the brain and spinal cord;
- Whereas when the connective tissue known as dura that holds CSF in around the spinal cord has a hole or tear, the result is a loss of CSF volume;

- Whereas the most common symptom is a disabling positional headache that is worse when upright and improved when lying down;
- Whereas spinal CSF leaks may cause a wide range of symptoms and serious complications, including stroke, dementia, Parkinsonism, coma, and even death;
- Whereas the causes of spinal CSF leaks include those that arise from trauma or medical procedures, as well as those that occur spontaneously;
- Whereas the diagnosis is often missed or delayed due to low awareness by health care providers, contributing to additional suffering;
- Whereas the sensitivity of diagnostic imaging is currently inadequate to confirm the diagnosis and/or locate the leak in many cases, which impacts treatment options and outcomes;
- Whereas current treatment options are limited to epidural patching procedures and a range of neurosurgical procedures;
- Whereas the incidence and prevalence of this disorder has been challenging to study due to underdiagnosis;
- Whereas funding for research of this disorder is lacking; and
- Whereas greater awareness and understanding of this disorder are vital to ensure the diagnosis, treatment, and best possible outcomes for patients: Now, therefore, be it
  - 1 Resolved, That the House of Representatives—
  - 2 (1) supports the designation of "National Spi-
  - 3 nal CSF Leak Awareness Week"; and

- 1 (2) recognizes the importance of understanding
- 2 the impact of this disorder.

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