

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 10

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2001 Regular Session  
11r1361  
CF 11r1154

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By: **Senators Jacobs, Ferguson, Hafer, Harris, Hooper, McCabe, Roesser,  
Sfikas, Stoltzfus, and Teitelbaum**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2001  
Assigned to: Economic and Environmental Affairs

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Committee Report: Favorable  
Senate action: Adopted  
Read second time: March 19, 2001

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RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A Senate Joint Resolution concerning

2 **Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy Syndrome Awareness Month**

3 FOR the purpose of requesting the Governor and encouraging the United States  
4 Congress to designate October as Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy Syndrome  
5 Awareness Month; encouraging the federal government to develop programs  
6 relating to Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy Syndrome; and generally relating to  
7 Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy Syndrome.

8 WHEREAS, Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy Syndrome (RSDS), also known as  
9 Complex Regional Pain Syndrome, is an extremely painful progressive chronic  
10 disease of the nervous system resulting from a simple trauma, infection, or surgery  
11 that can lead to chronic inflammation, spasms, burning pain, stiffness, pathological  
12 changes in skin and bone, excessive sweating, tissue swelling, and extreme sensitivity  
13 to touch; and

14 WHEREAS, RSDS currently afflicts an estimated 7 million children and adults  
15 in the United States and approximately 133,000 in Maryland; and

16 WHEREAS, RSDS can strike at any time and is a complex and little known  
17 disease; and

18 WHEREAS, RSDS can strike at any age but is more common between the ages  
19 of 40 and 60; and

20 WHEREAS, RSDS is often misdiagnosed and treatment is delayed because it is  
21 misdiagnosed; and

22 WHEREAS, The early treatment of RSDS often results in a remission of the  
23 disease symptoms; and

1 WHEREAS, If treatment is delayed, the disorder can quickly spread causing  
2 irreversible changes in bone and muscle and severe physical and psychological  
3 problems; and

4 WHEREAS, Treatment includes multiple medications and procedures that may  
5 be prohibitively expensive; and

6 WHEREAS, RSDS is recognized by the National Institute of Neurological  
7 Disorders and Stroke which supports and conducts research relevant to RSDS; now,  
8 therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the federal  
10 government is encouraged to promote programs that will increase awareness, early  
11 detection, research, and treatment of Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy Syndrome; and  
12 be it further

13 RESOLVED, That the United States Congress is encouraged to designate  
14 October of each year as National Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy Syndrome Awareness  
15 Month; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That the Governor is requested to designate October of each year  
17 as Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy Syndrome Awareness Month; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of  
19 Legislative Services to the Honorable Parris N. Glendening, Governor of Maryland;  
20 the Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., President of the Senate of Maryland; the  
21 Honorable Casper R. Taylor, Jr., Speaker of the House of Delegates, and be it further

22 RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of  
23 Legislative Services to the Maryland Congressional Delegation: Senators Paul S.  
24 Sarbanes and Barbara A. Mikulski, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510;  
25 and Representatives Wayne T. Gilchrest, Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., Benjamin L. Cardin,  
26 Albert R. Wynn, Steny Hamilton Hoyer, Roscoe G. Bartlett, Elijah E. Cummings, and  
27 Constance A. Morella, House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515.