

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. RES. 404

Expressing support for the designation of the 17th day in May as “DIPG Awareness Day” to raise awareness and encourage research into cures for diffuse intrinsic pontine glioma (DIPG) and pediatric cancers in general.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 17, 2021

Mrs. DINGELL (for herself, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. COHEN, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Ms. DEAN, Mr. DEUTCH, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. LAMALFA, Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. VELA, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mrs. WALORSKI, Mr. LAMB, Mr. RUSH, Mr. LONG, and Mr. WALTZ) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

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## RESOLUTION

Expressing support for the designation of the 17th day in May as “DIPG Awareness Day” to raise awareness and encourage research into cures for diffuse intrinsic pontine glioma (DIPG) and pediatric cancers in general.

Whereas diffuse intrinsic pontine glioma (DIPG) affects 200 to 400 children in the United States each year with certain regularity;

Whereas brain tumors are the leading cause of cancer-related death in children;

Whereas DIPG is the second most common malignant brain tumor of childhood;

Whereas DIPG is the leading cause of childhood death due to brain tumors;

Whereas the median survival time is only 9 months postdiagnosis with treatment;

Whereas 5-year survival is less than 1 percent;

Whereas, given the age at diagnosis and the average life expectancy, the number of life years lost annually because of DIPG is approximately 24,000 years of person life lost (calculated as the number of children diagnosed by average of male and female life expectancy from that median age,  $300 \times 80 = 24,000$  years of person life lost annually);

Whereas prognosis has not improved for children with DIPG in over 40 years; and

Whereas Federal funding for research for pediatric cancer should be increased to address the level of unmet medical need for this vulnerable population: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2               (1) supports the designation of “DIPG Aware-  
3       ness Day”;

4               (2) encourages all people of the United States  
5       to become more informed about diffuse intrinsic  
6       pontine glioma (DIPG) pediatric brain cancer, and  
7       the current challenges to the medical research sys-  
8       tem in designating sufficient research funding for  
9       pediatric cancers;

1           (3) supports expanded research to better under-  
2       stand DIPG, develop effective treatments, and pro-  
3       vide comprehensive care for children with DIPG and  
4       their families; and

5           (4) encourages public and private sources of re-  
6       search funding to elevate their consideration of the  
7       mortality rate of a type of cancer, as well as the life-  
8       years lost, as significant factors to be considered  
9       during the grant application process.

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