

## Senate Resolution 22 - Introduced

### SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 22

BY SCHNEIDER

1 A Resolution recognizing March as Fibromuscular  
2 Dysplasia Awareness Month in Iowa.

3 WHEREAS, fibromuscular dysplasia (FMD) is a disease  
4 that causes abnormal cell growth of the arterial wall  
5 and can lead to areas of narrowing, beading, aneurysms,  
6 and dissections of the arterial wall; and

7 WHEREAS, until recently there has been very little  
8 progress in understanding this disease and there are no  
9 set protocols to treat the disease; and

10 WHEREAS, FMD has always been considered and is still  
11 classified as a rare disease, with many researchers now  
12 believing that FMD is an underdiagnosed disease; and

13 WHEREAS, some data suggests 4 to 5 percent of the  
14 population is affected by the disease; and

15 WHEREAS, 90 percent of the patients affected by FMD  
16 are women, but men and children can also develop the  
17 disease; and

18 WHEREAS, there are different classifications of FMD,  
19 with the two most common types being medial fibroplasia  
20 and intimal fibroplasia; and

21 WHEREAS, unlike adults, children tend to be  
22 diagnosed with intimal fibroplasia, which can be more  
23 aggressive; and

24 WHEREAS, individuals and families affected by FMD  
25 often experience problems such as a sense of isolation,  
26 difficulty in obtaining an accurate and timely  
27 diagnosis, and less than optimal treatment options; and

28 WHEREAS, unlike many rare diseases that are

1 relatively well known, FMD is not well known by the  
2 public or the medical community and patients and their  
3 families bear a large share of the burden for educating  
4 the public and their own physicians and raising funds  
5 for awareness and research; and

6 WHEREAS, the Fibromuscular Dysplasia Society of  
7 America (FMDSA) was founded in March 2003, and has been  
8 active and successful with many programs including  
9 public and physician awareness, patient support, and  
10 engaging and working with researchers from around the  
11 world; and

12 WHEREAS, FMDSA is funding the United States Registry  
13 for Fibromuscular Dysplasia; and

14 WHEREAS, recent data has shown the inaccuracy of  
15 the belief that 75 percent of FMD cases affect renal  
16 arteries and more recent data has shown it is very  
17 common to have a five-year delay from the onset of  
18 symptoms to a diagnosis; and

19 WHEREAS, greater awareness and research of the  
20 disease is still needed as FMD patients present with  
21 the same symptoms as much of the general population  
22 such as hypertension, headaches, dizziness, stroke,  
23 dissection of an artery, aneurysm, swooshing noise in  
24 the ear, and renal infarction, and children can present  
25 with basic symptoms such as high blood pressure,  
26 headaches, insomnia, fatigue, and abdominal pain; and

27 WHEREAS, the misdiagnosis of FMD can lead to severe  
28 consequences and disability; and

29 WHEREAS, FMDSA is organizing a global observance  
30 of fibromuscular dysplasia during the month of March

1 each year when patients, medical professionals, and  
2 researchers shall join together to focus attention on  
3 fibromuscular dysplasia as a public health issue; NOW  
4 THEREFORE,

5 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, That the Senate  
6 recognizes the month of March as Fibromuscular  
7 Dysplasia Awareness Month and invites the citizens  
8 of Iowa to educate themselves and others with regard  
9 to the diagnosis, treatment, and support of persons  
10 affected by fibromuscular dysplasia.