

SENATE RESOLUTION

8618

By Senator Liiias

1 WHEREAS, Multiple System Atrophy, also known as MSA, is a rare
2 degenerative and terminal neurological disease, which has a
3 distinctive impact on each patient; and

4 WHEREAS, According to the Multiple System Atrophy Coalition, MSA
5 affects approximately 50,000 Americans; and

6 WHEREAS, It has been estimated that as many as 35,000 people with
7 MSA have been misdiagnosed with other neurodegenerative disorders;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Symptoms include problems with balance, coordination,
10 gait, bladder and bowel functions, speech, swallowing, and breathing;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, A multidisciplinary approach to MSA care includes
13 physical, psychological, and financial support for patients and
14 caregivers, including support groups; and

15 WHEREAS, There are some medications that treat the symptoms and
16 some clinical trials for the development of improved treatment, much
17 more research is needed for better management of the disease and
18 ultimately a cure; and

19 WHEREAS, Increased education and awareness are needed to assist
20 in accurately diagnosing MSA and to raise funds for research for
21 treatments with fewer side effects and ultimately a cure; and

1 WHEREAS, March has been proclaimed as Multiple System Atrophy
2 Awareness Month among the MSA worldwide community in dealing with the
3 devastating effects of MSA;

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State Senate
5 support the observation of March as Multiple System Atrophy Awareness
6 Month to call attention to the pressing need to increase public
7 awareness of this progressive neurodegenerative disorder and
8 encourage further research into treatments and a cure for this
9 terrible disease.

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