

By: Maldonado

H.R. No. 1784

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Hemophilia and von Willebrand disease are types of  
2 bleeding disorders that have been diagnosed in more than 1,100  
3 Texans; and

4           WHEREAS, Hemophilia A, known as factor VIII deficiency, is  
5 largely an inherited disorder in which one of the proteins needed to  
6 form blood clots is missing or reduced; in some cases, however,  
7 there is no family history of the disorder, and the condition is the  
8 result of a spontaneous gene mutation; approximately one in 5,000  
9 males born in the United States has hemophilia A; hemophilia B,  
10 known as factor IX deficiency, is far less common than hemophilia A,  
11 occurring in only about one in 25,000 male births; and

12           WHEREAS, When people with hemophilia are injured, they bleed  
13 longer than those without hemophilia; small cuts or surface bruises  
14 are usually not a problem, but more traumatic injuries may result in  
15 serious problems and potential disability; the main treatment for  
16 hemophilia involves regular injections or infusions of clotting  
17 factor derived from donated human blood or from genetically  
18 engineered products called recombinant clotting factors; and

19           WHEREAS, Von Willebrand disease is caused by a defect or  
20 deficiency of a blood clotting protein and is estimated to occur in  
21 one to two percent of the population; people with VWD usually bruise  
22 easily, have recurrent nosebleeds, or bleed after tooth extraction  
23 or other surgery, but depending on whether the disease is mild or  
24 severe, there is a variety of treatments available; and

1           WHEREAS, Individuals with these diseases often face  
2 challenges in accessing the appropriate care they need to lead  
3 healthy and productive lives; they require access to the full range  
4 of therapies, as well as to proper providers and designated centers  
5 of excellence suitable to their unique health care needs; moreover,  
6 they need options for pharmacies and home support services; and

7           WHEREAS, In 1973, the National Hemophilia Foundation  
8 launched a two-year campaign to establish the creation of a  
9 nationwide network of hemophilia diagnostic and treatment centers,  
10 and today there are some 140 treatment centers and programs  
11 throughout the country; access to comprehensive care has been shown  
12 to markedly improve outcomes for individuals with bleeding  
13 disorders; and

14           WHEREAS, Much work still needs to be done in behalf of people  
15 with hemophilia and von Willebrand disease, and educating others is  
16 a vital first step; now, therefore, be it

17           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas  
18 Legislature hereby promote greater public awareness of hemophilia  
19 and von Willebrand disease and encourage all Texans to become  
20 better informed of the particular needs of individuals with  
21 bleeding disorders.