

By: Madden

H.R. No. 1179

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The C&S Patient Education Foundation, also known as
2 Conquer Chiari, is dedicated to improving the experiences and
3 outcomes of those suffering from Chiari and syringomyelia through
4 education, awareness, and research; and

5 WHEREAS, Chiari Malformation is a serious neurological
6 disorder that occurs when the bottom part of the brain, the
7 cerebellum, descends out of the skull and crowds the spinal cord;
8 this puts pressure on both the brain and the spine and disrupts the
9 normal flow of cerebrospinal fluid, causing a wide variety of
10 symptoms, including headaches, neck pain, balance problems,
11 trouble breathing, numbness, and chronic pain; one large study
12 showed that the vast majority of Chiari patients suffer from at
13 least five symptoms; and

14 WHEREAS, Affecting more than 300,000 people in the United
15 States, Chiari can strike both adults and children; many patients
16 undergo brain surgery in an attempt to keep symptoms from
17 progressing, but surgery is not always successful; and

18 WHEREAS, Syringomyelia is a related disorder in which a
19 fluid-filled cyst, or syrinx, develops inside the spinal cord,
20 sometimes stretching nerve tissue and resulting in permanent nerve
21 damage and paralysis; while syringomyelia can occur after a spinal
22 cord injury or other traumatic incident, it is most commonly caused
23 by Chiari, and one analysis estimated that the disorder affects
24 between 100,000 and 200,000 Americans; and

1 WHEREAS, To date there has been very little research done to
2 answer fundamental questions about Chiari and syringomyelia, and
3 medical experts still disagree about underlying causes, diagnoses,
4 and treatment options; however, Conquer Chiari is working to change
5 this by advocating for increased awareness of Chiari and its
6 consequences; and

7 WHEREAS, The nonprofit organization aids the medical
8 community and maintains a website offering sufferers the most
9 comprehensive source of information available about Chiari and
10 related topics; in addition, Conquer Chiari holds annual
11 fund-raising walks in various locations across the country, with
12 the next walks scheduled for Texas in Plano, Cibolo, and Houston in
13 2011; and

14 WHEREAS, The notable contributions of Conquer Chiari are
15 helping to educate people about these disorders and are providing
16 invaluable support to those facing diagnosis and treatment, and the
17 organization and its admirable goals are indeed worthy of
18 commendation; now, therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
20 Legislature hereby honor Conquer Chiari for its efforts in behalf
21 of those with Chiari and syringomyelia and encourage all Texans to
22 learn more about these serious health issues; and, be it further

23 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
24 prepared for Conquer Chiari as an expression of high regard by the
25 Texas House of Representatives.