

By: Zerwas

H.R. No. 1419

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Malnutrition Awareness Week is taking place from
2 September 28 to October 2, 2015; and

3 WHEREAS, This observance was first established in 2012 by the
4 American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition; ASPEN has
5 played a leading role in drawing attention to malnutrition,
6 understanding that awareness is an important step toward treating
7 the condition; and

8 WHEREAS, ASPEN defines malnutrition as an "acute, subacute or
9 chronic state of nutrition," and it can be the result of either
10 inadequate or unbalanced nutrition; even overweight individuals
11 can be malnourished if they are not receiving proper nutrients; and

12 WHEREAS, Malnutrition can cause the loss of lean body mass,
13 and that loss can affect recovery from surgery, illness, or
14 disease; the condition is particularly prevalent in vulnerable
15 groups such as older adults, hospital patients, and minority
16 populations, and statistics show that these demographics have
17 higher incidences of such severe chronic diseases as diabetes,
18 kidney disease, and cardiovascular disease; and

19 WHEREAS, Many health experts agree that the quality of
20 nutrition has a direct impact on an individual's health and that
21 good nutrition can reduce medical costs by helping to keep people
22 healthy and out of institutionalized care; and

23 WHEREAS, Two important tools in combatting malnutrition are
24 nutritional screening and therapeutic nutrition, through which

1 people at risk are administered food and fluids to support their
2 metabolism; the benefits of these procedures are myriad, yet they
3 are not routine practices across the spectrum of health care; and

4 WHEREAS, The Texas Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
5 considers access to nutritional screening and therapeutic
6 nutrition essential to restoring lean body mass, improving clinical
7 outcomes, reducing health care costs, and promoting good health;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, By gaining a more thorough understanding of
10 malnutrition, residents of the Lone Star State are able to better
11 safeguard their health and to seek effective treatments, and all
12 those involved in sharing information about this condition are
13 indeed deserving of support; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 84th Texas
15 Legislature hereby recognize September 28 through October 2, 2015,
16 as Malnutrition Awareness Week in Texas.