

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 701

**WHEREAS**, Cystic fibrosis, commonly referred to as CF, is a genetic disease that affects approximately 30,000 children and adults in the United States and nearly 70,000 children and adults worldwide, more than 1,700 of whom live in this state; and

**WHEREAS**, In persons with cystic fibrosis, a defective gene causes the body to produce an abnormally thick, sticky mucus that clogs the lungs, and these secretions produce life-threatening lung infections; the secretions also obstruct the pancreas and prevent its digestive enzymes from reaching the intestines to help the body break down and absorb food; and

**WHEREAS**, More than 10 million Americans are symptomless carriers of the defective CF gene, and this disease occurs in approximately one of every 3,500 live births in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, The median age of survival for a person with cystic fibrosis is 41.1 years; and

**WHEREAS**, With advances in the treatment of CF, the number of adults living with this disease has steadily grown, and approximately 1,000 new cases of cystic fibrosis are diagnosed each year; and

**WHEREAS**, Nearly 50 percent of the affected population is 18 years of age or older, and people with the disease have a variety of symptoms attributed to the more than 1,800 mutations of the CF gene; and

**WHEREAS**, Infant blood screening to detect genetic defects is the most reliable and least costly method to identify persons likely to have cystic fibrosis; and

**WHEREAS**, Early diagnosis of the disease permits early treatment and enhances the quality of life and longevity of patients; the treatment of CF depends on the stage of the disease and the organs involved; and

**WHEREAS**, Clearing mucus from the lungs is an important part of the daily CF treatment regimen, and other types of treatments include inhaled antibiotics and pancreatic enzymes, among others; and

**WHEREAS**, A critical component of treating patients with cystic fibrosis is access to innovative treatments, which can play a crucial role in the lives of patients with CF; and

**WHEREAS**, There are 11 world-class treatment centers in this state which specialize in the diagnosis of cystic fibrosis and the care of persons with CF; and

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**WHEREAS**, Improving the length and quality of life for people with CF starts with awareness; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 85th Legislature, hereby designate the month of May 2017 as Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Month in Texas.

Schwertner

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on May 1, 2017.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate