

By: Price

H.R. No. 137

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Pulmonary Fibrosis Awareness Month is an
2 international campaign held in September to help call attention to
3 this serious disease and to rally support for the search for a cure;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Pulmonary fibrosis refers to scarring of the lungs,
6 which over time can destroy lung tissue and lead to deteriorated
7 respiratory function; according to some estimates, the disease
8 affects 1 out of every 200 American adults over the age of 60, and
9 approximately 50,000 new cases are diagnosed each year; and

10 WHEREAS, Researchers have identified a multitude of causes of
11 pulmonary fibrosis, including certain medications, radiation,
12 autoimmune diseases, environmental triggers, and exposure to
13 hazardous materials such as asbestos, silica, and coal dust; often,
14 the exact cause is difficult to determine, and most patients go on
15 to be diagnosed with idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis, or pulmonary
16 fibrosis of unknown origin; and

17 WHEREAS, As the disease worsens, patients experience
18 shortness of breath, coughing, fatigue, and other symptoms, which
19 may develop rapidly in some cases and progress more slowly over a
20 period of months or years in others; the lung damage caused by
21 pulmonary fibrosis cannot be reversed, but medications and
22 therapies can sometimes help ease symptoms and improve quality of
23 life; if symptoms are severe, sufferers may be candidates for a lung
24 transplant; and

1 WHEREAS, Public awareness plays an important role in
2 promoting research for pulmonary fibrosis and ensuring that every
3 patient receives a timely and accurate diagnosis, and Pulmonary
4 Fibrosis Awareness Month provides an opportunity for patients,
5 families, and advocates around the world to join together to help
6 make these goals a reality; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
8 Legislature hereby recognize September 2019 as Pulmonary Fibrosis
9 Awareness Month and encourage all Texans to learn more about this
10 critical health issue.