

By: Beckley

H.R. No. 1289

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, World Meningitis Day is being observed on April 24,
2 2019; and

3 WHEREAS, Meningitis, which can be caused by a viral or
4 bacterial infection, refers to an inflammation of the membranes, or
5 meninges, surrounding the brain and spinal cord; though cases of
6 viral meningitis are often mild, bacterial meningitis is a serious
7 disease that can rapidly turn fatal; a person may die in a period of
8 only 8 to 24 hours after first contracting the infection; and

9 WHEREAS, Every year since 2012, 10 to 12 percent of
10 individuals infected with bacterial meningitis have lost their
11 battle with the disease; the rate of bacterial meningitis is higher
12 among adolescents and young adults than it is for most other age
13 groups, and several outbreaks have occurred on college campuses
14 within the last decade; among those who survive meningococcal
15 disease, 20 percent go on to live with severe health problems; and

16 WHEREAS, Vaccinating adolescents for meningitis saves lives
17 and prevents the health problems and disabilities caused by the
18 bacterium, including epilepsy, paralysis, limb loss, organ damage,
19 and brain damage; inoculating young people also offers economic
20 advantages by decreasing the direct costs and productivity losses
21 associated with the disease; and

22 WHEREAS, Greater public awareness can help the State of Texas
23 reduce the number of incidents and outbreaks of bacterial
24 meningitis, and World Meningitis Day provides an important

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1 opportunity to increase understanding of this debilitating and
2 potentially life-threatening illness; now, therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas
4 Legislature hereby recognize April 24, 2019, as World Meningitis
5 Day and encourage all Texans to learn more about the prevention of
6 bacterial meningitis through immunization.