



SPONSOR: Sen. Hocker & Rep. Gray & Rep. Dorsey Walker &
Rep. Ramone & Rep. Wilson-Anton
Sens. Hansen, Huxtable, Mantzavinos, Sokola, Wilson;
Reps. Dukes, Hilovsky, K. Johnson, Morrison,
Parker Selby, Postles, Romer

DELAWARE STATE SENATE
152nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 190

RECOGNIZING NOVEMBER 2024 AS "AUTOIMMUNE DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH" IN THE STATE OF DELAWARE.

1 WHEREAS, autoimmune diseases are caused when the body's immune system attacks its healthy tissues and
2 organs. They are chronic, potentially disabling diseases; and

3 WHEREAS, autoimmune diseases can affect any part of the body, including the skin, joints, connective tissues,
4 blood vessels, muscles, endocrine glands, and multiple-organ systems, and can be life threatening; and

5 WHEREAS, there are more than 80 types of autoimmune diseases and many of them share similar symptoms.
6 Some diseases carry an increased likelihood of people having multiple autoimmune diseases; and

7 WHEREAS, the most common autoimmune diseases are type 1 disease, multiple sclerosis, rheumatoid arthritis,
8 lupus, Crohn's, psoriasis, and scleroderma; and

9 WHEREAS, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) estimates autoimmune diseases are among the most prevalent
10 diseases in the U.S., affecting more than 23.5 million Americans and that the prevalence is rising; and

11 WHEREAS, 50 million Americans have been diagnosed with one or more autoimmune disease with the greatest
12 prevalence occurring in women at a rate of 2 to 1; and

13 WHEREAS, according to NIH, autoimmune disease is one of the top 10 leading causes of death in American girls
14 and women up to 64 years of age; and

15 WHEREAS, the Institute of Medicine reports that the United States is behind other countries in research related to
16 immune system self-recognition, the process involved in autoimmune disease; and

17 WHEREAS, diagnostic testing for most autoimmune diseases is not standardized, making autoimmune disease
18 very difficult to diagnose; and

19 WHEREAS, NIH estimates annual direct health care costs for autoimmune disease to be in the range of \$100
20 billion; and

21 WHEREAS, there is a significant need for research focusing on the etiology of all autoimmune-related diseases, in
22 order to increase understanding of the root causes, rather than treating symptoms after the disease has already had its
23 destructive effect; and

24 WHEREAS, designating November 2024 as “Autoimmune Disease Awareness Month” in the State of Delaware
25 will help educate the public about autoimmune diseases and the need for research funding, accurate diagnosis, and effective
26 treatments.

27 NOW, THEREFORE:

28 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the 152nd General Assembly of the State of Delaware, the House of
29 Representatives concurring therein, that November 2024 is recognized as “Autoimmune Disease Awareness Month” in the
30 State of Delaware.

SYNOPSIS

This Senate Concurrent Resolution recognizes November 2024 as "Autoimmune Disease Awareness Month" in the State of Delaware.

Author: Senator Hocker