



SPONSOR: Sen. S. McBride & Rep. Minor-Brown

DELAWARE STATE SENATE
152nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 95

DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF JUNE 2023 AS "CYTOMEGALOVIRUS AWARENESS MONTH" IN THE STATE OF DELAWARE.

1 WHEREAS, Cytomegalovirus (referred to as "CMV") is a common virus that infects people of all ages, with more
2 than half of adults being infected by age 40 with no signs of symptoms; and

3 WHEREAS, congenital CMV is the most common infectious cause of birth defects and childhood disabilities in
4 the United States; and

5 WHEREAS, congenital CMV is the most common congenital infection in the United States with approximately 1
6 in 150 children born with congenital CMV infection; and

7 WHEREAS, CMV infection is more common than the combined metabolic or endocrine disorders currently in the
8 United States core newborn screening panel; and

9 WHEREAS, approximately 1 in every 5 babies born with congenital CMV will have long-term health problems;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, CMV is found in bodily fluids, including urine, saliva, blood, mucus, and tears; and

12 WHEREAS, most people are not aware of their CMV infection status, with pregnant people being one of the
13 highest risk groups; and

14 WHEREAS, congenital CMV can be diagnosed if the virus is found in urine, saliva, blood, or other body tissues of
15 an infant during the first week after birth; and

16 WHEREAS, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and the Centers for Disease Control and
17 Prevention recommend that OB/GYNs counsel individuals on basic prevention measures to guard against CMV infection;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, the incidence of children born with congenital CMV can be greatly reduced with public education
20 and awareness; and

21 WHEREAS, congenital CMV is preventable with behavioral interventions such as practicing frequent hand
22 washing with soap and water after contact with diapers or oral secretions, not kissing young children on the mouth, and not
23 sharing food, towels, or utensils with young children; and

24 WHEREAS, a comprehensive understanding of CMV provides opportunities to improve the health and well-being
25 of our children.

26 NOW, THEREFORE:

27 BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the 152nd General Assembly of the State of Delaware, the House of
28 Representatives concurring therein, designates June 2023 as “Cytomegalovirus Awareness Month” in the State of Delaware
29 in order to raise awareness of the dangers of Cytomegalovirus and reduce the occurrence of congenital CMV infection.

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that more effort must be taken to counsel people who may become pregnant and
31 those in close contact with infants about the effects the virus can have on infants and children, including education and
32 informational resources on preventative measures available to health care providers, early care and education providers,
33 parents, expectant parents, people who may become pregnant, and family and guardians of infants.

SYNOPSIS

This resolution designates the month of June 2023 as “Cytomegalovirus Awareness Month” in the State of Delaware and recommends providing those in close contact with infants and children education and informational resources on preventative measures that can be taken to protect infants and children from the virus.

Author: Senator S. McBride