



SPONSOR: Rep. Longhurst

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
152nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 21

DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 2023 AS ALOPECIA AWARENESS MONTH IN THE STATE OF DELAWARE.

1 WHEREAS, alopecia is defined as the partial or complete absence of hair from areas of the body where it
2 normally grows and can be either temporary or permanent; and

3 WHEREAS, there are multiple types of alopecia including androgenic alopecia, alopecia areata, alopecia totalis,
4 alopecia universalis, and more; and

5 WHEREAS, alopecia of any type can affect all genders equally and can affect people of all ages and walks of life;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, Alopecia Areata affects as many as 6.8 million people in America and causes hair loss which can
8 range from patches of hair, typically circular and coin-size, to complete hair loss, otherwise known as Alopecia Totalis; and

9 WHEREAS, while there is no known cause for this autoimmune disease, several factors seem to contribute; some
10 evidence shows genes which control T regulator cells may be involved in Alopecia Areata, and patients who have other
11 autoimmune diseases like autoimmune polyglandular syndrome (APS) or autoimmune thyroid disease (AITD), may be
12 predictive of poor outcomes with treatment; and

13 WHEREAS, although there is no known cure, it is generally possible for Alopecia Areata patients to regrow hair
14 because the hair follicle is not totally destroyed or scarred as it is with cicatricial (scarring) alopecia; and

15 WHEREAS, bringing awareness to this disease is designed to help those experiencing hair loss remain confident
16 and positive, despite their condition; hair loss often carries a stigma that can only be dispelled with education and
17 knowledge, and for many with this disease, the emotional aspect of living with hair loss can be the greatest challenge; and

18 WHEREAS, during the month of September, many communities across America will be holding special events to
19 bring awareness to this disease, and minor and major league baseball teams have joined in helping NAAF get the word out
20 that it is nothing to be ashamed of; and

21 WHEREAS, The National Institutes of Health and other organizations are continuously supporting research that
22 may one day put an end to this disease; currently, researchers are studying the development of hair follicles in hopes of
23 finding treatments which will address the cause of this disease and investigating genetic clues with the hopes of developing
24 therapies and early intervention strategies.

25 NOW, THEREFORE:

26 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the 152nd General Assembly of the State of Delaware, that
27 September is recognized as Alopecia Awareness Month.

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the House of Representatives calls upon citizens, government agencies, and
29 others to end the stigma around alopecia and better support those who feel ashamed for suffering from a common illness.

SYNOPSIS

This resolution recognizes the month of September 2023 as Alopecia Awareness Month.