



SPONSOR: Sen. Hoffner

DELAWARE STATE SENATE  
152nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 18

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF MARCH 2024 AS “NATIONAL MULTIPLE MYELOMA AWARENESS MONTH.”

1 WHEREAS, multiple myeloma (or myeloma) is a cancer of plasma cells in the bone marrow and is called  
2 “multiple” because the cancer can occur at various sites in the body; and

3 WHEREAS, multiple myeloma causes a variety of adverse health effects, including a weakened immune system,  
4 anemia, kidney damage, and bone deterioration; and

5 WHEREAS, multiple myeloma is the second most common blood cancer worldwide; and

6 WHEREAS, multiple myeloma currently affects more than 100,000 people in the United States, with about 35,730  
7 new diagnoses and 12,590 deaths from the disease occurring in 2023, according to the Surveillance, Epidemiology, and  
8 End Results Program of the National Cancer Institute; and

9 WHEREAS, although multiple myeloma has been, and continues to be, most frequently diagnosed among those 65  
10 and over, the disease is increasingly being diagnosed in younger individuals, including those in their 30s, 40s, and 50s; and

11 WHEREAS, multiple myeloma is almost twice as likely to occur among African-Americans and is one of the  
12 leading causes of cancer deaths among African-Americans, with scientific understanding of the disparity remaining  
13 unknown; and

14 WHEREAS, although the cause of multiple myeloma remains unknown, robust research is being performed in the  
15 United States and internationally into potential genetic, environmental, and other risk factors; and

16 WHEREAS, additional new drugs and therapies are in the research phase, with patient enrollment in clinical trials  
17 playing an important role in determining safe and effective treatments; and

18 WHEREAS, understanding and treatment of multiple myeloma has been greatly furthered by advocacy initiatives  
19 promoting awareness, education, research, peer review, and collaboration, and such efforts are to be highly commended;  
20 and

21 WHEREAS, greater awareness of multiple myeloma among clinicians and the public can lead to earlier detection  
22 and treatment, improving health outcomes, and bringing comfort to patients and their families; and

23 WHEREAS, March is an appropriate month to designate as “National Multiple Myeloma Awareness Month.”

24 NOW, THEREFORE:

25 BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the 152<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly of the State of Delaware supports the  
26 designation of March 2024 as "National Multiple Myeloma Awareness Month" to increase public knowledge of the disease  
27 and advance the vision of finding a cure for multiple myeloma.

SYNOPSIS

This resolution expresses support for the designation of March 2024 as "National Multiple Myeloma Awareness Month."

Author: Senator Hoffner