

## **107th CONGRESS 2d Session**

### **S. RES. 270**

Designating the week of October 13, 2002, through October 19, 2002, as National Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Week.

**IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES** May 15 (legislative day, MAY 9), 2002

Mr. CAMPBELL (for himself, Mr. DEWINE, and Mr. KERRY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

### **RESOLUTION**

Designating the week of October 13 through October 19, 2002, as National Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Week.

Whereas cystic fibrosis is one of the most common fatal genetic diseases in the United States and there is no known cure;

Whereas cystic fibrosis, characterized by digestive disorders and chronic lung infections, is a fatal lung disease;

Whereas a total of more than 10,000,000 Americans are unknowing carriers of cystic fibrosis;

Whereas one out of every 3,900 babies in the United States is born with cystic fibrosis;

Whereas approximately 30,000 people in the United States, many of whom are children, have cystic fibrosis;

Whereas the average life expectancy of an individual with cystic fibrosis is 32 years;

Whereas prompt, aggressive treatment of the symptoms of cystic fibrosis can extend the lives of those who have this disease;

Whereas recent advances in cystic fibrosis research have produced promising leads in gene, protein, and drug therapies;

and Whereas education can help inform the public of the symptoms of cystic fibrosis , which will assist in early diagnoses, and increase knowledge and understanding of this disease:

Now, therefore, be it Resolved, That the Senate--

(1) designates the week of October 13, 2002 through October 19, 2002, as  
`National Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Week';

(2) commits to increasing the quality of life for individuals with cystic fibrosis by promoting public knowledge and understanding in a manner that will result in earlier diagnoses, more fund raising efforts for research, and increased levels of support for those with cystic fibrosis and their families; and

(3) requests the President to issue a proclamation calling on the people of the United States to observe the week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

## **STATEMENTS ON SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS--MAY 15, 2002 -- (Senate - May 15, 2002)**

Mr. CAMPBELL: Mr. President, today I am submitting a resolution recognizing October 13, 2002, through October 19, 2002, as National Cystic Fibrosis Awareness Week. I am pleased to be joined by my colleagues Senators **DEWINE** and **KERRY** in submitting this resolution. We are hopeful that greater awareness of cystic fibrosis, CF, will lead to a cure.

Cystic fibrosis is one of the most common fatal genetic diseases in the United States and there is no known cure. It affects approximately 30,000 children and adults in the United States. There are about 1,000 new cases of CF diagnosed each year. While most of these individuals are diagnosed by the age of three, others are not recognized as having CF until they are age 18 years, or older. Today, the life expectancy for someone with CF is 32 years. I believe we must do what we can to change these statistics.

While there is no cure, early detection and prompt treatment can significantly improve and extend the lives of those with CF. My home State of Colorado was one of the first States to require CF screening for newborns. Happily, more States are now performing this simple test.

And, since the discovery of the defective CF gene in 1989, CF research has greatly accelerated. I am proud that Colorado is home to the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center and Children's Hospital, both of which are actively involved in CF research and care. Children's Hospital is one of eight innovative Therapeutics Development Centers performing cutting edge clinical research to develop new treatments for CF.

Currently, the CF Foundation oversees more than 25 CF clinical trials. In addition, small pilot trials are carried out in the 115 Cystic Fibrosis Foundation-accredited care centers across the United States. And, organizations such as the Cystic Fibrosis Research, Inc. also sponsor studies for treatment of the disease. Efforts such as these throughout the nation are providing a greater quality of life for those who have CF. I applaud these efforts.

While I am encouraged by the CF research in Colorado and elsewhere, more needs to be done. I believe we can increase the quality of life for individuals with Cystic Fibrosis by promoting public knowledge and understanding of the disease in a manner that will result in earlier diagnoses, more fund raising efforts for research, and increased levels of support for those who have CF and their families.

Therefore, I urge my colleagues to act on this resolution so we can move another step closer to eradicating this disease.