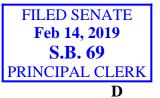
GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2019



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SENATE BILL DRS55008-MG-42A

Short Title:	Raise Awareness of Lupus.	(Public)
Sponsors:	Senators Robinson, Foushee, and Krawiec (Primary Sponsors).	
Referred to:		

1	A BILL TO BE ENTITLED			
2	AN ACT DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF MAY OF EACH YEAR AS LUPUS			
3	AWARENESS MONTH AND ESTABLISHING AN ADVISORY COUNCIL ON LUPUS			
4	WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.			
5	Whereas, lupus is an acute and chronic autoimmune disease in which the immune			
6	system is unbalanced, causing inflammation and tissue damage to virtually every organ system			
7	in the body, including the skin, lungs, heart, kidneys, and brain; and			
8	Whereas, lupus can cause seizures, strokes, heart attacks, miscarriages, organ failures,			
9	and even death; and			
10	Whereas, lupus strikes mostly women of childbearing age, and African-Americans,			
11	Hispanics, Latinos, Asians, and Native Americans are two to three times more likely to develop			
12	lupus; and			
13	Whereas, lupus can be particularly difficult to diagnose because its symptoms mimic			
14	those of many other illnesses and major gaps exist in understanding the causes and consequences			
15	of lupus; and			
16	Whereas, there have been no new drugs approved by the United States Food and Drug			
17	Administration specifically for lupus in 52 years, and current treatments for the disease can have			
18	damaging side effects; and			
19	Whereas, more than half of all people with lupus suffer four or more years and require			
20	three or more doctors during that time before receiving an accurate diagnosis of the disease; and			
21	Whereas, approximately 35,000 to 40,000 North Carolinians and 1.5 million			
22	Americans are living with this chronic illness for which there is no cure; and			
23	Whereas, lupus costs the nation \$31.4 billion annually; and			
24	Whereas, increased public awareness, education, and research are key to winning the			
25	battle against lupus; Now, therefore,			
26	The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:			
27	SECTION 1. Chapter 103 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new			
28	section to read:			
29	" <u>§ 103-15. Lupus Awareness Month.</u>			
30	The month of May of each year is designated as Lupus Awareness Month in North Carolina."			
31	SECTION 2. Article 1B of Chapter 130A of the General Statutes is amended by			
32	adding a new Part to read:			
33	"Part 6A. Lupus Advisory Council.			
34	" <u>§ 130A-33.70. Lupus Advisory Council.</u>			



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1	(a)	There	is established the Lupus Advisory Council in the Departm	ent. The Council shall		
2	have the fo	ollowir	ng duties and responsibilities with respect to North Carolin	na residents who have		
3	been diagn		• •			
4		(1)	Make recommendations to the Governor and the Secreta	ry aimed at improving		
5		<u> </u>	their health status.			
6		(2)	Identify and examine the limitations and problems as	sociated with existing		
7		<u>_/</u>	laws, regulations, programs, and services.	<u> </u>		
8		(3)	Examine the financing of, and access to, health services	5.		
9		(4)	Identify and review health promotion and disease			
10			relating to the leading causes of death and disability.			
11		(5)	Advise the Governor and the Secretary upon any matte	er which the Governor		
12			or Secretary may refer to it.			
13	<u>(b)</u>	The L	upus Advisory Council in the Department shall consist	of 15 members to be		
14	appointed a	as folle	ws:			
15		(1)	Four members shall be appointed by the Governor, th	ree of whom shall be		
16			scientists with experience in lupus who participate	in various fields of		
17			scientific endeavor, including, but not limited to, biome	edical research, social,		
18			translational, behavioral, and epidemiological research,	and public health; and		
19			one of whom shall be an individual who has been diagn	osed with lupus.		
20		<u>(2)</u>	Four members shall be appointed by the Speake	er of the House of		
21			Representatives, two of whom shall be medical clinicia	ins with experience in		
22			treating individuals diagnosed with lupus; one of v	vhom shall represent		
23			nonprofit women's organizations and health organization	ons, including at least		
24			one state or national organization that deals with the tr	eatment of lupus; and		
25			one of whom shall be a public member who has been di	agnosed with lupus.		
26		(3)	Four members shall be appointed by the President Pro T	-		
27			three of whom shall represent nonprofit women's org			
28			organizations, including at least one state or national o	-		
29			with the treatment of lupus; and one of whom shall be	a public member who		
30			has been diagnosed with lupus.			
31		<u>(4)</u>	Three members appointed by the Secretary, represen	ting the Divisions of		
32			Public Health and Social Services.			
33		<u>(5)</u>	Of the members appointed by the Governor, two shall			
34			one year, two shall serve initial terms of two years, a			
35			initial term of three years. Thereafter, the Governor's a	appointees shall serve		
36			terms of four years.			
37		(6)	Of the nonlegislative members appointed by the Spe			
38			Representatives, two shall serve initial terms of two year			
39 40			an initial term of three years. Thereafter, nonlegislativ			
40			by the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall ser			
41			Of the nonlegislative members appointed by the Preside	-		
42			Senate, two shall serve initial terms of two years and on			
43			term of three years. Thereafter, nonlegislative memb			
44 45			President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall serve to	•		
45		The C	Legislative members of the Council shall serve two-yea			
46 47	(c)		Chairperson of the Council shall be elected by the Cou	unch from among its		
47 48		membership.				
48 49		(d) The majority of the Council shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.				
49 50		(e) <u>Members of the Council shall receive per diem and necessary travel and subsistence</u> expenses in accordance with the provisions of G.S. 138-5 or G.S. 138-6, or travel and subsistence				
50 51	expenses in accordance with the provisions of G.S. 138-5 of G.S. 138-6, of traver and subsistence expenses in accordance with the provisions of G.S. 120-3.1, as applicable.					
51	expenses in accordance with the provisions of 0.5, 120-5.1, as applicable.					

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- (f) All clerical support and other services required by the Council shall be provided by the Department." SECTION 3. This act is effective when it becomes law.
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