

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. RES. 268

Designating July 17 through July 23 as “National Fragile X Awareness Week”.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 9, 2000

Mr. EDWARDS (for himself, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. ROBB, Mrs. BOXER, and Mr. KERREY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

RESOLUTION

Designating July 17 through July 23 as “National Fragile X Awareness Week”.

Whereas Fragile X is the most common inherited cause of mental retardation, affecting people of every race, income level, and nationality;

Whereas 1 in every 260 women is a carrier of the Fragile X defect;

Whereas 1 in every 4,000 children is born with the Fragile X defect, and typically requires a lifetime of special care at a cost of over \$2,000,000;

Whereas Fragile X remains frequently undetected due to its recent discovery and the lack of awareness about the disease, even within the medical community;

Whereas the genetic defect causing Fragile X has been discovered, and is easily identified by testing;

Whereas inquiry into Fragile X is a powerful research model for neuropsychiatric disorders, such as autism, schizophrenia, pervasive developmental disorders, and other forms of X-linked mental retardation;

Whereas individuals with Fragile X can provide a homogeneous research population for advancing the understanding of neuropsychiatric disorders;

Whereas with concerted research efforts, a cure for Fragile X may be developed;

Whereas Fragile X research, both basic and applied, has been vastly underfunded despite the prevalence of the disorder, the potential for the development of a cure, the established benefits of available treatments and intervention, and the significance that Fragile X research has for related disorders; and

Whereas the Senate as an institution and Members of Congress as individuals are in unique positions to help raise public awareness about the need for increased funding for research and early diagnosis and treatment for the disorder known as Fragile X: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) designates July 17 through July 23 as Na-
3 tional Fragile X Awareness Week; and

4 (2) requests that the President issue a procla-
5 mation calling upon the people of the United States

- 1 to observe National Fragile X Awareness Week with
- 2 appropriate recognition and activities.

