

## 2013 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 724

Offered January 14, 2013

*Designating May 19, in 2013 and in each succeeding year, as Hepatitis B Awareness Day in Virginia.*

Patrons—Keam, Kory and Scott, J.M.

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, hepatitis B is a virus that infects the liver; and

WHEREAS, chronic hepatitis B is a condition that affects the human liver, and when left untreated, can lead to further complications, including cirrhosis, liver cancer, and ultimately, liver failure and death; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that more than one million people in the United States are infected with chronic hepatitis B; and

WHEREAS, chronic hepatitis B disproportionately affects certain communities of color, such as Asians and Pacific Islanders; and

WHEREAS, chronic hepatitis B is preventable and in many cases can be cured or managed using currently available treatments; and

WHEREAS, for many reasons, those at risk for chronic hepatitis B do not receive prevention information, while those chronically infected do not receive treatment; and

WHEREAS, the public and private sectors can come together to raise awareness and educate the public on hepatitis B and make recommendations on ways to implement best practices in hepatitis B prevention and treatment; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly designate May 19, in 2013 and in each succeeding year, as Hepatitis B Awareness Day in Virginia; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates post the designation of this day on the General Assembly's website.

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