

# 1995 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 624

Offered January 23, 1995

*Establishing the first week in October as Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy Awareness Week in Virginia.*

Patrons—Wilkins, Cantor, Crouch, Dudley, Fisher, Katzen, Kilgore, Newman, Reid and Sherwood

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, as many as six million adults and children in the United States suffer from a little-known disease called Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy (RSD); and

WHEREAS, RSD is a disease of the autonomic nervous system that often follows a simple trauma, such as a sprain, a bruise, or even surgery for such conditions as carpal tunnel syndrome, and is characterized primarily by severe and constant pain; and

WHEREAS, the condition most often affects the arms or legs, but can affect any part of the body, causing loss of mobility, changes in the skin, softening of the bones, and a range of other symptoms; and

WHEREAS, medical knowledge about RSD is limited, but early treatment has been shown to be most effective; and

WHEREAS, of all of the symptoms of RSD, the most dangerous and debilitating is the chronic, burning, aching pain which, as the disease progresses, can become intractable and disabling; and

WHEREAS, medical knowledge about RSD remains scant, and effective treatment largely experimental, due to the difficulty in diagnosing and treating the disease; and

WHEREAS, research and education about the causes and treatments for RSD are of paramount importance, so that those who suffer from this painful malady can find effective medical care; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby designate the first week of October as Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy Awareness Week in Virginia; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the General Assembly call upon the citizens of the Commonwealth to learn about the ravages of RSD and support research, education, and support efforts to help the many RSD sufferers throughout the country.

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