

World Lupus Day

P R O C L A M A T I O N

Whereas, lupus is an autoimmune disease that can cause severe damage to the tissue and organs in the body and, in some cases, death; and



Whereas, more than five million people worldwide suffer the devastating effects of this disease and each year over a hundred thousand women, men and children are newly diagnosed with lupus, the great majority of whom are women of childbearing age; and



Whereas, medical research efforts into lupus and the discovery of safer, more effective treatments for lupus patients are underfunded in comparison with diseases of comparable magnitude and severity; and



Whereas, many physicians worldwide are unaware of symptoms and health effects of lupus, causing people with lupus to suffer for many years before they obtain a correct diagnosis and medical treatment; and



Whereas, there is a deep, unmet need worldwide to educate and support individuals and families affected by lupus; and



Whereas, there is an urgent need to increase awareness in communities worldwide of the debilitating impact of lupus;



Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that May 10th is hereby designated as World Lupus Day on which lupus organizations around the globe call for increases in public and private sector funding for medical research on lupus, targeted education programs for health professionals, patients and the public, and worldwide recognition of lupus as a significant public health issue.

Proclaimed This Day, 10 May 2006

