

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
House of Representatives  
117<sup>th</sup> Congress  
H. RES. NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
RESOLUTION

Expressing support for the designation of the 17th day in May as “DIPG Awareness Day,” to raise greater awareness for childhood brain cancer, and to encourage research into cures for diffuse intrinsic pontine glioma (DIPG) and pediatric cancers in general.

Whereas diffuse intrinsic pontine glioma (DIPG) newly affects roughly 200-400 children in the United States each year;

Whereas brain tumors lead in childhood cancer incidence, and childhood cancer deaths;

Whereas DIPG is the second most common malignant brain tumor of childhood;

Whereas DIPG is the leading cause of childhood death due to brain tumors;

Whereas the median survival time is only 9 months post diagnosis with standard treatment;

Whereas 5-year survival is less than 1 percent;

Whereas given the age at diagnosis and the average life expectancy, the number of life years lost annually because of DIPG is approximately 24,000 years of human life lost (calculated as the number of children diagnosed by average age of male and female life expectancy from that median age,  $300 \times 80 = 24,000$  years of human life lost annually);

Whereas terminal prognosis has not improved for children with DIPG in over 40 years; and

Whereas Federal funding for research for pediatric cancer should be increased to address the level of unmet medical need for this vulnerable population: Now, therefore, be it

**Resolved, That the House of Representatives—**

(1) supports the designation of “DIPG Awareness Day”;

(2) encourages all people of the United States to become more informed about diffuse intrinsic pontine glioma (DIPG) pediatric brain cancer, and the current challenges to the medical research system in designating sufficient research funding for pediatric cancers;

(3) supports expanded research to better understand DIPG, develop effective treatments, and provide comprehensive care for children with DIPG and their families; and

(4) encourages public and private sources of research funding to elevate their consideration of the mortality rate of a type of cancer, as well as the life-years lost, as significant factors to be considered during the grant application process.