

Senate Resolution 591

By: Senators Martin of the 9th, Kirkpatrick of the 32nd, Brass of the 28th, Burke of the 11th and Unterman of the 45th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing October, 2018, as Eczema Awareness Month; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, eczema is a set of skin conditions that cause red, itchy, and inflamed skin and
3 has profound medical, psychosocial, and economic impacts on patients, families, and
4 communities; and
- 5 WHEREAS, the prevalence of eczema in the United States is 10.1 percent of the population
6 and impacts more than 31.6 million children and adults in the Unites States alone; and
- 7 WHEREAS, eczema's medical impacts include dry, cracked, and scaly skin, incessant itch,
8 chronic pain, and sleep deprivation, with 41.5 percent of adult eczema patients reporting that
9 they also experience depression and 47.9 percent being diagnosed with asthma; and
- 10 WHEREAS, eczema sufferers also frequently experience correlated symptoms and ailments
11 such as allergic rhinitis, food allergies, ADHD, bacterial and viral infections, and
12 hypertension; and
- 13 WHEREAS, eczema can result in missed days of school and work for patients and
14 caregivers, disability and reduced ability within a patient's chosen profession, unemployment
15 and underemployment, and other opportunity costs; and
- 16 WHEREAS, the direct medical costs of the three most common types of eczema exceed
17 \$2.17 billion, and the indirect medical costs exceed \$927 million; and
- 18 WHEREAS, two-thirds of eczema sufferers report experiencing significant access barriers,
19 including high out-of-pocket costs and insurance requirements that delay the patients' access
20 to necessary medications; and

21 WHEREAS, there is no cure for eczema, but there are emerging technologies and
22 medications that promise a much brighter future for patients with the condition.

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
24 recognize October, 2018, as Eczema Awareness Month.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
26 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the public and the
27 press.