

Senate Resolution 313

By: Senators Davenport of the 44th, Jones II of the 22nd, Butler of the 55th, Anderson of the 43rd, Seay of the 34th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing April 2021 as Sarcoidosis Awareness Month at the state capitol; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, sarcoidosis is a rare autoimmune disease that causes inflammation and, in many
4 cases, scarring of body tissue; it can affect many parts of the body, but it usually begins in
5 the lungs or lymph nodes or on the skin. Less commonly affected areas such as the eyes,
6 liver, heart, brain, or any organ can be affected; and

7 WHEREAS, general symptoms of sarcoidosis include fatigue, fever, nausea, and weight loss,
8 and while many cases can be mild or asymptomatic, sometimes it develops gradually and
9 produces symptoms that span the course of years; there is no cure for the disease, which is
10 often a long-term illness with severe cases that can cause disability or even death; and

11 WHEREAS, sarcoidosis can affect many different parts of the body, and it often is
12 misdiagnosed; and

13 WHEREAS, the exact cause of sarcoidosis remains unknown, but many medical experts
14 believe that it may come about as a result of inhaling a foreign substance into the lungs,
15 thereby triggering an immune response; and

16 WHEREAS, the Foundation for Sarcoidosis Research (FSR) is the nation's leading nonprofit
17 organization dedicated to finding a cure for the disease; it improves care for patients,
18 educates the public about the disease, creates patient registries for shared data and research,
19 and provides a physician's directory for patients in need of treatment, especially those in rural
20 or under-resourced areas; and

21 WHEREAS, National Sarcoidosis Awareness Month, established by Congress in 2008, is
22 supported by several health organizations, including the National Heart, Lung, and Blood
23 Institute, and it provides an opportunity to focus on the complexity of this inflammatory
24 disease while also providing information to raise public awareness of its causes, effects, and
25 treatments, which underscores the importance of education and research efforts surrounding
26 sarcoidosis.

27 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
28 recognize April 2021 as Sarcoidosis Awareness Month at the state capitol.

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