

Senate Resolution 567

By: Senators Kirkpatrick of the 32nd, Hufstetler of the 52nd, Watson of the 1st, Burns of the 23rd, Hatchett of the 50th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Expressing support for the designation of a State Prader-Willi Syndrome Awareness Day to
2 raise awareness of and promote research on the disorder; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, occurring in approximately 1 out of every 15,000 births, Prader-Willi syndrome
4 is a complex genetic disorder that causes an extreme and insatiable appetite, which often
5 results in morbid obesity; and

6 WHEREAS, morbid obesity is the major cause of death for individuals with Prader-Willi
7 syndrome; and

8 WHEREAS, Prader-Willi syndrome is the most commonly known genetic cause of
9 life-threatening obesity, affecting males and females with equal frequency across all races
10 and ethnicities; and

11 WHEREAS, Prader-Willi syndrome further causes cognitive and learning disabilities as well
12 as behavioral difficulties, including obsessive compulsive disorder and difficulty controlling
13 emotions, and studies have shown that individuals with the syndrome have a high morbidity
14 and mortality rate; and

15 WHEREAS, the hunger, metabolic, and behavioral characteristics of Prader-Willi syndrome
16 force affected individuals to require constant and lifelong supervision in a controlled
17 environment; and

18 WHEREAS, although there is no known cure for Prader-Willi syndrome, early diagnosis
19 allows families to access treatment, intervention services, and support from health
20 professionals, advocacy organizations, and other families who are dealing with the
21 syndrome; and

22 WHEREAS, recently discovered treatments, including the use of human growth hormone,
23 are improving the quality of life for individuals with the syndrome and offer new hope to
24 families, but many difficult symptoms associated with Prader-Willi syndrome remain
25 untreated.

26 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE Senate that the members of this body
27 express their support for the designation of a State Prader-Willi Syndrome Awareness Day
28 in recognition of the efforts of the many advocates and organizations that encourage
29 awareness, promote research, and provide education, support, and hope to those impacted by
30 Prader-Willi syndrome.

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