

2023-K2300

Assembly Resolution No. 2300

BY: M. of A. Rules (Kelles)

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION memorializing Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim May 2024, as Ehler Danlos Syndrome Awareness Month in the State of New York

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize official weeks that are set aside to increase awareness of serious health conditions that affect the lives of citizens of New York State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, it is the sense of this Legislative Body to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim May 2024, as Ehler Danlos Syndrome Awareness Month in the State of New York, in conjunction with the observance of National Ehler Danlos Syndrome Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS, Caused by genetic changes that affect connective tissue, the Ehlers-Danlos syndromes (EDS) are a group of 13 heritable connective tissue disorders; symptoms of this life-altering condition include joint hypermobility, skin hyperextensibility, and tissue fragility; and

WHEREAS, The most common form of EDS is hypermobile EDS, and other types include classical EDS, vascular EDS, and kyphoscoliotic EDS; for some, the symptoms can be relatively mild, while for others the condition can be disabling; and

WHEREAS, People with hypermobile EDS (hEDS) experience joint hypermobility, loose and unstable joints that dislocate easily, joint pain and clicking joints, extreme tiredness, skin that bruises easily, digestive problems, dizziness and an increased heart rate after standing up, problems with internal organs, and problems with bladder control; and

WHEREAS, Classical EDS (cEDS) affects the skin and people with cEDS may have joint hypermobility, loose and unstable joints, stretchy skin, fragile skin that can split easily, smooth and velvety skin that bruises easily, wounds that are slow to heal and leave wide scars, and hernias and organ prolapse; and

WHEREAS, Vascular EDS (vEDS) is a rare type of EDS and is considered to be the most serious, affecting the blood vessels and internal organs; people with vEDS may have skin that bruises easily, thin skin with visible small blood vessels, fragile blood vessels that can bulge or tear, internal bleeding, risk of organ problems, and hypermobile fingers and toes; and

WHEREAS, Kyphoscoliotic EDS (kEDS) is a rare type of EDS, where people may have curvature of the spine, joint hypermobility, loose and unstable joints, weak muscle tone, fragile eyes that can be easily damaged, and soft and velvety skin that is stretchy and bruises easily; and

WHEREAS, There is no specific treatment for EDS, but it is possible to manage symptoms with the help of support and advice from healthcare professionals; and

WHEREAS, It is imperative that there be greater awareness of this serious disease, and more must be done to increase activity at the

local, State and National levels; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim May 2024, as Ehler Danlos Syndrome Awareness Month in the State of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Honorable Kathy Hochul, Governor of the State of New York.