

By Senator Haridopolos

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Senate Resolution

A resolution recognizing May 2011 as "Brain Tumor Awareness Month" in Florida.

WHEREAS, 62,000 Americans are diagnosed with a primary brain tumor each year and 150,000 more are diagnosed with a metastatic brain tumor that results from cancer spreading from another part of the body to the brain, and

WHEREAS, brain tumors are the leading cause of death from solid tumors in children under the age of 20 and are the third leading cause of death from cancer in young adults between the ages of 20 and 39, and

WHEREAS, brain tumors may be malignant or benign, but can be life-threatening in either case, and

WHEREAS, 612,000 Americans have been diagnosed and are living with a brain tumor, and

WHEREAS, the treatment of brain tumors is complicated by the fact that more than 120 different types of brain tumors exist, and

WHEREAS, the treatment of brain tumors presents significant challenges because of their location, the difficulty of delivering treatment across the blood-brain barrier and the serious edema that results when the blood-brain barrier is disrupted, and the obstacles to complete surgical removal of tumors, and

WHEREAS, brain tumors have been described as a disease that affects the essence of "self," and

WHEREAS, brain tumor research is supported by a number of private nonprofit research foundations and by institutes at the

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30 National Institutes of Health, including the National Cancer  
31 Institute and the National Institute for Neurological Disorders  
32 and Stroke, and

33 WHEREAS, important advances have been made in understanding  
34 brain tumors, including the genetic characterization of  
35 *glioblastoma multiforme*, one of the deadliest forms of brain  
36 tumor, and

37 WHEREAS, advances in basic research may fuel the research  
38 and development of new treatments, and

39 WHEREAS, daunting obstacles still remain to the development  
40 of new treatments and no strategies for the screening or early  
41 detection of brain tumors exist, and

42 WHEREAS, there is a need for greater public awareness of  
43 brain tumors, including awareness of the difficulties associated  
44 with research and the opportunities for advances in brain tumor  
45 research and treatment, NOW, THEREFORE,

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47 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

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49 That May 2011 is recognized as "Brain Tumor Awareness  
50 Month" in Florida.