

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 152

Approved March 24, 2025

WHEREAS, Multiple Sclerosis (MS) is a chronic and unpredictable disease of the central nervous system that affects nearly 1 million people in the United States and more than 2.8 million people worldwide; and

WHEREAS, MS is an autoimmune disease in which the body's immune system mistakenly attacks the protective covering of nerves, leading to inflammation and resulting in a variety of symptoms such as fatigue, mobility issues, cognitive impairment, pain, and vision problems; and

WHEREAS, The effects of MS vary widely from person to person and can result in significant physical, emotional, and financial burdens on those diagnosed, as well as their families and caregivers; and

WHEREAS, Although treatments exist to help manage symptoms and slow disease progression, there is currently no known cure for MS, which highlights the critical need in supporting ongoing research to improve the lives of those affected; and

WHEREAS, Federally and privately funded research has played a crucial role in deepening our understanding of MS, leading to breakthroughs in treatment and improving the quality of life for those affected; and

WHEREAS, Sustained investment in MS research is essential to developing new therapies, advancing towards a cure, and ensuring that those living with MS are not left behind due to reductions in critical funding; and

WHEREAS, The potential loss of research funding threatens to stall progress in MS treatment and care, leaving millions of individuals and families facing uncertainty about the future of their health and well-being; and

WHEREAS, Oftentimes, MS presents itself as an invisible illness, where many of its debilitating symptoms, such as chronic pain, fatigue, and cognitive difficulties, are not outwardly visible, leading to misunderstanding, misjudgment, and challenges in receiving appropriate support and accommodations; and

WHEREAS, Increased public awareness and education about MS and its wide range of symptoms is essential in promoting early diagnosis, improving healthcare outcomes and fostering a sense of compassion and understanding for those affected; and



WHEREAS, MS Awareness Month is observed every March to raise awareness of Multiple Sclerosis, provide education to the public, and encourage support for those affected by this disease and their loved ones.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council hereby recognizes March as MS Awareness Month and acknowledges the complicated web of challenges that individuals living with MS face on a daily basis; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council emphasizes the importance of continued research funding for MS, recognizing that scientific advancements are essential to improving treatment options, finding a cure, and enhancing the quality of life for those affected; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council urges increased public awareness, advocacy, and support for policies that protect and expand funding for MS research, ensuring that progress towards effective treatments and a cure is not hindered by financial limitations.

IN CITY COUNCIL
MAR 20 2025
READ AND PASSED


RACHEL M. MILLER, PRESIDENT

CLERK

I HEREBY APPROVE.



Mayor

Date: 3/24/25