

**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

1 Designating March, in 2019 and in each succeeding year, as Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month in  
2 Virginia.

3 WHEREAS, inherited bleeding disorders are exceedingly rare, but without proper treatment have  
4 the potential to be devastating to the health of affected individuals; and

5 WHEREAS, all individuals with inherited bleeding disorders share the inability to form a proper  
6 blood clot, which may lead to extended bleeding after injury, surgery, trauma, menstruation, or  
7 childbirth; these disorders are associated with significant morbidity and can be fatal if not treated  
8 effectively; and

9 WHEREAS, many individuals with hemophilia, a type of bleeding disorder, became infected  
10 with HIV and Hepatitis C in the 1980s due to the contamination of the blood supply and blood products;  
11 and

12 WHEREAS, Virginia has recognized the serious nature of untreated bleeding disorders by  
13 mandating the treatment of hemophilia by insurers of the Commonwealth's regulated plans; and

14 WHEREAS, greater awareness of inherited bleeding disorders will help members of the public  
15 understand the scope of inherited bleeding disorders, including not only hemophilia, but also von  
16 Willebrand disease; and

17 WHEREAS, greater public awareness will also increase engagement in the prevention and  
18 treatment of inheritable bleeding disorders to ensure that members of the bleeding disorder community  
19 do not face these disorders alone, as well as prevent unnecessary procedures and reduce the risk of  
20 disability; now, therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly  
22 designate March, in 2019 and in each succeeding year, as Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month in  
23 Virginia; and, be it

24 RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates transmit a copy of this



