

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 9

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVE MILLETT

Introduced: 3/16/15

Referred: Health and Social Services

A RESOLUTION

1 **Proclaiming April 19, 2015, as Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia Action Day.**

2 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

3 **WHEREAS** one in every 2,500 babies is diagnosed with congenital diaphragmatic
4 hernia; and

5 **WHEREAS**, since 2000, it is estimated that over 500,000 babies have been born with
6 congenital diaphragmatic hernia and only 50 percent of those babies survived; and

7 **WHEREAS**, though congenital diaphragmatic hernia is as common as spina bifida
8 and cystic fibrosis, very few people know about it; and

9 **WHEREAS**, every year in the United States, 1,600 babies are born with congenital
10 diaphragmatic hernia; and

11 **WHEREAS**, though many individuals living in the state have been diagnosed with
12 and survived congenital diaphragmatic hernia, many families have endured the horrible pain
13 and grief associated with the loss of loved ones from congenital diaphragmatic hernia; and

14 **WHEREAS** individuals with congenital diaphragmatic hernia often endure multiple
15 surgeries and medical complications beyond their diagnosis, including heart defects,
16 pulmonary complications, gastric and intestinal problems, and developmental delays and

1 require respiratory and medicinal support for years; and

2 **WHEREAS** raising awareness of this congenital defect will increase acceptance of
3 and support for those individuals suffering from it and will help advocate for the medical
4 research and advances that are urgently needed;

5 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature proclaims April 19, 2015, as
6 Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia Action Day; and be it

7 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature encourages the people of
8 the state to observe Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia Action Day with appropriate efforts to
9 promote awareness of congenital diaphragmatic hernia, to promote acceptance of and support
10 for individuals with congenital diaphragmatic hernia, and their families, and to improve the
11 lives of individuals affected by congenital diaphragmatic hernia.