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HOUSE RESOLUTION

DESIGNATING MARCH AS BLEEDING DISORDERS AWARENESS MONTH.

WHEREAS, March 1986 was declared the first Hemophilia Awareness Month by President Ronald Reagan, and in 2016, March was named National Bleeding Disorders Month by the United States Department of Health and Human Services; and

WHEREAS, bleeding disorders impact thousands of individuals in the United States, and greater awareness and understanding of inheritable bleeding disorders is needed; and

WHEREAS, hemophilia, which affects one in every 4,000 live male births, is one example of a bleeding disorder that inhibits the body's ability to clot blood and causes severe bleeding even from slight injury; and

WHEREAS, because of bleeding disorders, individuals may miss time at work and school, have a constrained quality of life, and often lose the ability to perform basic day-to-day activities; and

WHEREAS, individuals with bleeding disorders can control bleeding episodes and live ordinary, fulfilling lives with the proper care and access to comprehensive medical care, such as regular visits to federally-recognized Hemophilia Treatment Centers; and

WHEREAS, designating March as Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month in Hawaii will promote a greater sense of shared purpose among individuals with bleeding disorders, raise awareness among the rest of the community, and build upon the work of former Presidents and Administrations; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2019, that March is designated as Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month in the State of Hawaii; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Education, and the Department of Health are encouraged to spread awareness of common bleeding disorders, like hemophilia and Von Willebrand disease, and explain that proper treatment and support leads to healthy and ordinary lifestyles; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the United States Department of Health and Human Services, the Chairperson of the Board of Education, the Superintendent of Education, the Director of Health, and the Governor of the State of Hawaii.