



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Bill Analysis

Elizabeth Molnar

Am. S.B. 312*

131st General Assembly
(As Reported by H. Health & Aging)

Sens. Jones, Lehner, Yuko, Eklund, Hughes, Cafaro, Bacon, Balderson, Beagle, Burke, Coley, Faber, Gardner, Gentile, Hite, Manning, Obhof, Oelslager, Patton, Peterson, Schiavoni, Skindell, Tavares, Thomas

BILL SUMMARY

- Designates May 1 as "Fanconi Anemia Awareness Day."
- Designates January 31 as "Omphalocele Awareness Day."
- Designates September 26 as "Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma Awareness Day."

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Fanconi Anemia Awareness Day

The bill designates May 1 as "Fanconi Anemia Awareness Day" in honor of those affected by this rare and debilitating genetic disease.¹ Though considered primarily a blood disease, Fanconi anemia is characterized by multiple physical abnormalities, bone marrow failure, and a higher than normal risk of cancer.²

* This analysis was prepared before the report of the House Health & Aging Committee appeared in the House Journal. Note that the list of co-sponsors and the legislative history may be incomplete.

¹ R.C. 5.239.

² Dana-Farber/Boston Children's Cancer and Blood Disorders Center, *Fanconi Anemia*, available at <http://www.danafarberbostonchildrens.org/conditions/blood-disorders/fanconi-anemia.aspx>. See also Fanconi Anemia Research Fund, *What is Fanconi anemia?*, available at http://fanconi.org/index.php/learn_more.

Omphalocele Awareness Day

The bill designates January 31 as "Omphalocele Awareness Day" to raise public awareness and encourage medical research on this birth defect.³ Omphalocele is a birth defect of the abdominal wall that causes an infant's intestines, liver, or other organs to stick outside of the belly through the belly button. The organs are covered in a thin, nearly transparent sac that hardly ever is open or broken. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that about 775 babies in the United States are born with an omphalocele each year. The causes of omphalocele among most infants are unknown.⁴

Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma Awareness Day

The bill designates September 26 as "Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma Awareness Day."⁵ Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma, commonly referred to as pontine glioma, infiltrative brainstem glioma, or DIPG, is a rare tumor of the brainstem that appears almost exclusively in children. A pontine glioma occurs in the part of the brainstem (the "pons") that controls many critical functions, including breathing and blood pressure. The tumor's location, as well as the way it infiltrates normal brain tissue, makes it difficult to treat. There are about 300 to 350 new cases of DIPG diagnosed each year in the United States, usually in children under the age of 10 years. DIPG affects boys and girls equally.⁶

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	04-04-16
Reported, S. State & Local Gov't	05-10-16
Passed Senate (32-0)	05-17-16
Reported, H. Health & Aging	---

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³ R.C. 5.238.

⁴ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, *Facts about Omphalocele*, available at <http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/birthdefects/omphalocele.html>.

⁵ R.C. 5.242.

⁶ Cornell University, Weill Cornell Medical College, Department of Neurological Surgery, Weill Cornell Brain and Spine Center, *Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma (DIPG)*, available at <http://weillcornellbrainandspine.org/condition/diffuse-intrinsic-pontine-glioma-dipg>.

