

**Senator Tavares**

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**RESOLUTION**

Recognizing Hepatitis Awareness Month, May 2013.

WHEREAS, The members of the Senate of the 130th General Assembly of Ohio are pleased to recognize May 2013 as Hepatitis Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS, Hepatitis is a vaccine-preventable disease defined by inflammation of the liver, and it can be either acute or chronic, with numerous possible causes. It is estimated that between 800,000 and 1.2 million people in the United States are chronically infected with hepatitis B, although the majority do not know they are infected, with Asian Americans being disproportionately affected; and

WHEREAS, Numerous state and national organizations, including the Ohio Asian American Health Coalition, are working to increase awareness of hepatitis and its preventability. The National Task Force of Hepatitis B with Focus on Asian and Pacific Islander Americans and the Asian Health Foundation have recently called on President Barack Obama's administration and the United States Congress to increase funding for viral hepatitis services and education and to bring attention to the need for those at risk to receive screening; and

WHEREAS, Hepatitis Awareness Month can undoubtedly be a benefit to those who suffer from, or who are at risk for, hepatitis, as well as to the families and friends of these individuals, and it can offer them help, support, and encouragement in the fight against this disease; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the Senate of the 130th General Assembly of Ohio, in adopting this Resolution, recognize May 2013 as Hepatitis Awareness Month; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit duly authenticated copies of this Resolution to the Ohio Asian American Health Coalition and to the news media of Ohio.

I, Vincent L. Keeran, hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of Senate Resolution No. 120, adopted by the Ohio Senate, May 21, 2013.

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Vincent L. Keeran  
Clerk of the Senate

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Senator Keith Faber  
President of the Senate

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Senator Charleta B. Tavares  
Senatorial District No. 15